China Weekly Review

密勒氏評論報

STUDENTS and the MAY 4th MOVEMENT

CZECHOSLOVAKIA TODAY

RONALD CHAMBERLAIN

LETTER FROM KAIFENG

by MARK M. LU

EDITORIALS:

SELF CRITICISM

SLOW BUSINESS & FAST TALK

MAY 6, 1950 JMP 5,000

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LETTERS From The People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the China Weekly Review.

TWO MR. LEES

To the Editor:

When I read "The Story of Two Mr. Lees" in the April 15 issue of the Review, I could not help laughing heartily for some time. I don't think I can give a better reply to Mr. Duncan C. Lee of Washington, D.C. than you have done. However, I want to emphasize that in case Mr. Lee, the attorney in Washington for General Chennault's airline, joins the ranks of the unemployed because "his" name appears on the masthead of the Review, I am willing to testify there are two Duncan C. Lees who are entirely different.

I appreciate very much your action in publishing Mr. Lee's radiogram with an explanation and not removing the name, Duncan C. Lee from the Review's masthead. If you had complied with the Washington Mr. Lee's request, it is probable that the Civil Air Transport would think their highly honored attorney really had some connections with, or had given some company secrets to, the Review, which I doubt General Chennault would like.

Thus my testimony should make it possible for the other Mr. Lee to keep his job and the money he gets from the "blood and sweat" of the Chinese people. The people's China has seen the end of CAT, Chennault and all his gang who have been driven off by the Liberation Army.

DUNCAN C. LEE

Peking
April 18, 1950

TREMENDOUS DAY

To the Editor:

Here's a copy of a news letter that I have sent to friends in the US. It may be of some interest as to how things are going here. I am also enclosing a picture of the new Christian Cathedral which we are building on the West China Union University campus. This is where the eastern transcept joins the great nave. A Chinese garden, full of Szechuen's exotic plants and flowering trees, will surround the building.

". . . Reorganization is taking place in the university, in which students, teachers, and campus workmen are all participating. Until these events were initiated by the Communist military representatives appointed to this university, none of us could have imagined how the barriers between all the different groups and departments and colleges—such as constitute any campus—would have been dealt with.

"I feel as if I had never actually seen democracy in operation until these recent weeks. For instance, in the University Council, whenever the discussion reaches an impasse between different groups, the president halts the meeting, asks each group to confer by itself for a while: then all come together with their new findings, and oftener than not a solution is discovered acceptable to all.

"Thus we move forward, and there is no question but that we shall not only achieve an academic institution far superior in intellectual integrity to the past, but also, there will be a new spirit: The university will belong to every person working in it. This is an almost unbelievable, unimaginable event, but we are seeing it emerge before our eyes. If religion and brotherhood have anything to do with one another, then what is happening here has a deeply religious significance.

"Here's a strange thing that happened again and again in our reorganization meetings: The Communist Military Government appointee to this university, seemed always primarily concerned for a spirit of unity in reaching a conclusion rather than about any predetermined or definite solution to a problem. Over and over again he would talk about this, and whenever discussion seemed to be dividing the group, he would halt proceedings, let people talk in their own small groups, and then come together on a new objective basis of wholeness. I have never seen anything like it in 29 years of university administration.

"One day he stood up and said, 'I have been a Christian for 10 years. . . .' He was also trained for 10 years at Yenan in Communist democratic procedures. President Fong one day exclaimed, 'I love that man.' I can say the same thing. He was once a railway engineer. Of course, not all Communists are like him, but the methods he advocates are those generally used.

"[One] of the English Baptists believes that a new kind of Christianity, more human, more real, more like Jesus, will emerge in China. To say that this is a tremendous day in the Far East has all the exaggeration of understatement. . . ."

DRYDEN L. PHELPS

Chengtu
April 12, 1950

WARMONGERS

To the Editor:

In reading the article "Americans Don't Know About China," in your April 29 issue, we can see that the American public has all kinds of misconceptions about China. While we Chinese here have won the opportunity—our first after almost 30 years of uninterrupted warfare—to tackle the job of peaceful construction, the people in America view China as "a mess," and "a dangerous place to go." The large number of newspapers and radio programs which serve as the molders of public opinion and over most of which the American Wall Street bankers have control can never be expected to report original news from the Soviet Union or the People's Democracies as that would do much harm to their own interests. So it is quite understandable why they are feverishly selling every possible misconception about China to the average American.

And anyone who has any knowledge about the true social and economic conditions of China will find the expressions, "Starvation by the Reds" and "Tools of Soviet Russia" absurd. Just compare what China was like before liberation and what she is now. One will find that the old days were characterized by negative backwardness and indolence, while the present is a time of positive progressiveness and industriousness. The stabilization of currency and commodity prices which now prevails in China as a result of preventing speculative activities sets an example of sharp contrast to the hourly depreciation of the KMT Gold Yuan backed up by enormous American aid.

Chairman Mao wrote in his article "On People's Democratic Dictatorship," "We are faced with the serious task of economic construction. . . . The imperialists think that we are incapable of handling the economic task confronting us. They are watching and waiting for us to fail. We have difficulties to overcome and have to master something new to us. . . . The job must be tackled and we shall ultimately master it in several months, in one to two years, or three to five years." His saying has already been substantiated during these last months by the successful overcoming of many difficulties which came on us almost in succession, namely the KMT blockade, the KMT bombings, the shortage of raw materials and many others. Now we are facing natural

(Continued on Page 175)

THE CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

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SELF-CRITICISM

THE text of the directive on criticism and self-criticism issued by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party was released to the press last week.

Pointing out that today it is more than ever necessary to urge the people to criticize the work of the Communist Party openly, the directive instructed the Party-led press to pay increasing attention to criticism received from readers. In the past it was the practice for newspaper editors to check critical reports or accounts closely before publication. Frequently stories of this nature were not run unless the paper was able to verify them. On other occasions, the criticism was taken to the department or organization concerned and the latter was asked for comment and verification before publication.

While such a system obviously had certain advantages, such as in discouraging rash or ill-considered criticism since it placed the burden of definite proof upon the editor of a paper, it also enabled an organization or individual to escape just criticism by providing a pre-publication chance to "explain" or deny alleged shortcomings.

However, the directive states, the situation has now changed. The Communist Party occupies the leading position in the state organization, and shortcomings or errors in the work can easily jeopardize the interests of the broad masses of the people. "With the Party in the leadership of the state organization and with the raising of its prestige, pride which rejects or even suppresses criticism within and without the Party might easily arise."

In view of these conditions, the directive states, it is necessary that the practice of self-criticism be carried out on a wider scale than heretofore. Otherwise, the administration "will become infected by serious bureaucracy" and be unable to carry out the task of constructing a new China.

Discussing the procedure to be followed by newspapers, the directive states that in the event it is impossible to reach the criticized individual or organization for comment, the newspaper workers must go ahead and publish the criticism, provided, of course, that they have valid grounds for believing that the criticism is fundamentally correct or justified.

Editors and reporters, however, are cautioned that they must distinguish between constructive criticism and criticism of a destructive nature. Broadly, criticism from the rank and file, particularly from workers and peasants, is to be welcomed, while criticism of principles —such as that designed by counter-revolutionary elements for the purpose of discrediting the government and its institutions—should be rejected.

The directive also has a word for those criticized. If the criticism is entirely true, the subject is instructed to publish a statement in the paper, accepting the comment. Further, when changes have been made in conformity with the criticism, another statement is to be published telling of the changes. If the original criticism is only partly correct, a full statement should be inserted in the paper, accepting the justified portion of the criticism and correcting the incorrect portion. Finally, the criticized is warned that failure to accept criticism will result in discipline by the proper authorities.

In conclusion, the directive states that while this decision applies to publications led by the Party, the rest of the nation's press is free to follow suit. In case criticism comes from private or non-Party publications, the Party must give the same consideration and support to such criticism as that coming from Party papers.

* * *

WHILE the importance of this directive, especially in keeping government officials and organizations on their toes, is readily evident, its real significance, in our view, can better be appreciated if one takes a look backward to the days of the KMT.

Formerly few papers desired to publish criticism of any fundamental nature, and of those who so desired, only a few dared to do so. Criticism was officially frowned upon and one of the surest ways for an editor to get his paper closed and himself in jail—or perhaps even shot—was to be too free with his criticism.

A pretense of criticism was, however, made from time to time when editorials roundly attacking corruption or inefficiency or some such matter were carried. However, if an editor went further than to denounce corruption in principle and to suggest that the government should avoid it, he was getting on dangerous ground.

The contrast becomes even greater when we note that not only is the staff of a paper expected to publish all constructive criticism, but that the public figures and organizations so criticized are expected to own up to the correctness of the criticism and to institute and later make public a statement of remedial measures.

The whole idea of public criticism, self-criticism, and self-examination is something entirely new in this country where the matter of preserving "face" has been a tradition. It is indeed a startling thing. However, its effectiveness as a means for keeping the government alert

and in constant touch with the views of the public is undoubted. Likewise, its usefulness in promoting public interest in and concern with the work of official organs cannot be overestimated.

SLOW BUSINESS AND FAST TALK

WE note a prominently displayed item in the British-owned *North China Daily News* to the effect that Britain may abandon her investments in China "if negotiations to set up diplomatic relations with the Chinese People's Government hang fire much longer."

While we have some doubts that British businessmen could be persuaded so easily to let go of £250,000,000 worth of investments, we were even more bemused to read that the step was contemplated because of the financial losses being incurred by British firms in China. In other words, British firms are finding business bad not because of the Nationalist blockade and the bombings but because the British government does not yet have diplomatic relations with the Chinese government. That Chinese firms are suffering from the same problems does not, apparently, enter into the picture.

How ridiculous this line of reasoning is was demonstrated a few days later by none other than British Foreign Under-Secretary Ernest Davies who, in answer to questions in the House of Commons, declared there had been no discrimination against British firms by the Chinese authorities and that there was no connection between the poor business facing Shanghai's British firms and the current Anglo-Chinese diplomatic negotiations in Peking. The slow business, he said, was due to the Nationalist blockade and the general deflation now taking place in China.

Now the diplomatic observers quoted in the London dispatch must have been as much aware of the realities of the situation as Mr. Davies. The only explanation for the fact that such a story was fed to the press—and for the prominent position it was given locally—can have been to apply pressure to the Peking authorities to hurry up and settle the matter of "recognition" or face the prospect of a British "withdrawal" from China.

We doubt that this kind of approach will have the desired effect.

There is a postscript, however. The dispatch which carried Mr. Davies' denial that British firms were being discriminated against in China also contained an allegation by a Conservative Member of Parliament, a Mr. Walter Fletcher, that "every month enormous sums are extorted from British firms in Shanghai." The dispatch said Mr. Fletcher "gave no supporting evidence" for his assertion.

Did the *Hongkong Standard*, which published this story, headline Under-Secretary Davies' clarification of the matter? Not at all. Across three columns it spread the unsupported statement of Mr. Fletcher: "Large Sums Extorted from British Firms in Shanghai, MP Says."

25 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

Saghalien Island

May 2, 1925

The signing on January 21 last of the treaty between the Soviet Russian and the Imperial Japanese governments in conjunction with the announcement of the evacuation by the Japanese on April 4, and the handing over of the administration of Russian Saghalien to the representatives of Soviet Russia, have within recent weeks turned the attention of students of Far Eastern international relations to the importance of that relatively little known island. . . .

The acquisition of Northern Saghalien would make the Japan Sea an inland sea to Japan, and in that sea, according to the strategists, lies the heart of Nippon. . . . And so when opportunity presented itself Japan occupied the northern part of the island, and not a small amount of the negotiation through which Soviet Russia finally obtained recognition by the government of Japan had to do with the Saghalien Question. Finally, after more than three years' negotiation, as the world was notified in January last, the disputed points were settled and a treaty between Russia and Japan was signed at the Japanese Legation in Peking.

Imaginary Colony

"The Painted Veil," a novel by W. Somerset Maugham with its setting in Hongkong which was run serially in Hearst's International Magazine recently, is beset with difficulties on the eve of its publication in book form. The publishers, Messrs. William Heineman, Ltd., London, are making efforts to call in at once every review copy of the book from newspapers because of a complaint from the government of Hongkong that the titles of Assistant Colonial Secretary and Bacteriologist are both those of offices in the public service in Hongkong. During the novel's run in Hearst's this notice was published: "The editor hastens to state that the characters and incidents of this story are entirely imaginary, and no reflection is intended on any person now or previously in the Hongkong Government Service."

"The story has apparently caused some uneasiness in Hongkong," Mr. Maugham is quoted as saying, "and for that reason I have decided to make alterations in it before publication. The scene of the story will be removed from Hongkong to an imaginary colony in China."

10 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

Overseas Comfort Mission

May 4, 1940

Cheers and support from the 10,000,000 overseas Chinese in the South Seas were brought to their homeland by a "comfort mission" which arrived in Chungking on April 17. The enthusiastic scene of welcoming Jawaharlal Nehru last August and the Burma Goodwill Mission last December was re-enacted in the wartime capital when 43 members of the mission reached Chungking from Kunming after a two-week trip by highway. . . .

The occasion was made more memorable by the fact that this is the first overseas comfort mission to visit China since the struggle began.

From: "South Seas Mission Given a Royal Welcome on Visit to China's Capital" by William Chang

Japan's Popular Front

Fifteen Japanese alleged "Popular Front" leaders, including Kanju Kato, a former member of the Diet, are to face trial in Tokyo shortly on charges of having violated the Peace Maintenance Law, Domei reported on April 28. An indictment was returned against the group of leftists by an examining magistrate last Friday after an investigation that dragged on for two and a half years. The accused were arrested on December 15, 1937. The state's case against the group is said to be based on the allegation that the all-Japan Council Labor Unions and the Japan Proletarian Party, dissolved by the government on December 12, 1937 just prior to the arrests, had been engaged in underground Communist propaganda through magazines and other publications.

Students and the May 4th Movement

For 21 years China's students struggled against repressive governments. As May 4th anniversary is celebrated, students join in construction of new society.

THIS week students throughout China commemorated the 21st anniversary of the May 4th Incident, which marked the beginning of the modern student movement in this country.

By the time of the First World War, China's students had already begun to agitate against the imperialistic policies of the foreign powers having interests in China and against their own rotten officialdom in Peking. The announcement of Wilson's 14 points, plus the generally idealistic expressions voiced by other Allied war leaders had raised the hopes of the students that the end of the war would see a betterment of China's position vis a vis the foreign powers.

At the minimum, it was thought, the Allies, who had proclaimed that their fight was a just one in the interest of freeing the world from oppression and tyranny, would see to it that Germany's concession in Shantung was returned to China.

However, when it became known that the Big Four at Versailles, despite their talk of self-determination and so on, were still playing power politics and had conceded to Japan all the rights which Germany formerly held in Tsingtao, there was mass resentment against the foreign powers.

On May 4, 1919, Peking students, some 15,000 strong, held a mass demonstration against the Versailles decision and charged that the Peking government had betrayed the country. Three particular officials were singled out by the students as being largely responsible for the developments at Versailles, and were charged with having secretly sold the Shantung peninsula to Japan. The students managed to catch one of the three and gave him a beating. The police retaliated by arresting 32 students.

Students Declare "War"

As a result of these arrests the Peking students declared war on the government and despite the fact that public opinion was in back of the students the government, in the hands of the military, was determined to take strong measures. When the official who had been beaten died of his injuries the next day, the arrested students were sentenced to death and all public meetings were banned. Peking students went on strike and refused to attend classes until their fellow students were released. The government was swamped with protests from scholars, merchants and newspapers which praised the patriotism of the students who insisted on the release of those under arrest.

Bowing to mass pressure the government complied and the 32 students were freed on May 7, but special mandates were issued eulogizing the traitors, and the Minister of Education and the chancellor of the National University of Peking were both forced to resign. All this greatly aroused the students and they continued their strike, organizing street lecture campaigns to inform the public.

Wholesale arrests by the government was the answer to the street lectures and by the fourth of June, more than 1,000 students had been forcibly detained in Peking.

In the meantime, students throughout other cities were staging sympathy strikes and merchant guilds in the large cities supported them. Throughout the entire country petitions called for the release of the students and demanded punishment of the traitors.

Government Yields

Finally, under the weight of such public opinion, the government yielded and released the students on June 6 and accepted the resignations of the traitors five days later. The Chinese delegates at Versailles were also prevented from signing the unjust peace treaty.

The victory of the students was not solely of a political nature but, as pointed out by one who took part in the May 4th Movement, it brought about three practical results related to the future of the student movement.

1) It gave the "New Cultural Movement" a strong push forward, for before May 4th the movement had been confined to a small group of intellectuals who had scarcely awakened the vast majority of the Chinese people. The student demonstrations did just this.

2) An impetus was given to all kinds of social organizations. Not only did the students develop nationwide organizations, but teachers, workers, and merchants began organizing.

3) It helped develop the strength of the people. It encouraged them to become aware of existing needs for reform and the necessity for emphasizing dissatisfaction with prevailing conditions. The student movement proved that mass indignation was a potent force.

Simultaneously, in conjunction with disillusion with the West, the student movement at the end of the First World War aroused a feeling of intense patriotism among the people. Thus, the belief spread that national liberation was of more importance than was individual liberation from the chains of tradition and superstition which had been stressed by the earlier New Cultural Movement.

A new outlook also cropped up alongside the indignation and helplessness over the bad taste the Peace Conference had left. The 1917 revolution in Russia was praised by many Chinese intellectuals. More and more this group felt that the victory in the war was indicative of the failure of capitalism and was the victory of the common people. The real cause of the war, it was believed, was the unlimited expansion of capitalism which made it necessary for capitalists to break through national boundaries so as to set up an imperialistic economic world.

Thus, an ever increasing interest in the theories of Marx developed among China's students. And when the Chinese Communist Party was formed in Shanghai in 1920 there was a noticeable shift from study to organization and from organization to political action. The first recruits were students and professors.

The tremendous effect which the Russian Revolution had on the students of China cannot be underestimated. The success of this world shaking event led them to believe that the injustices of the West were due to its capitalist foundations and that capitalism was not necessarily the final and ultimate stage of social development.

The mid-twenties were a period of widespread student activity. When Sun Yat-sen reorganized the Kuomintang and formed a working agreement with the Chinese Communist Party, the students were among the more enthusiastic participants in the revolutionary work. Much of the propaganda and organizational tasks among workers and peasants and among the ranks of the small bourgeoisie fell to the students.

1927 Sellout

In 1927, Chiang Kai-shek sold out the revolution, purged the Kuomintang, outlawed the Communist Party, and massacred workers and students. Once again the government became the object of student agitation. Many of the reform movements of the next two decades were sparkplugged by the students, while increasing numbers, realizing the hopelessness of trying to accomplish anything through reformation of the KMT, joined the communist-led resistance movement in the countryside.

From 1931 to 1936 the students were among those urging the Kuomintang to resist Japanese aggression. They called for the united front of all parties to defend the homeland. Following the formation of the united front and the start of the war of resistance, the students once again emerged as leaders on the propaganda front, urging the people to support the war effort.

With the gradual breakdown of the united front, increasing numbers of students again began to drift over to the Liberated Areas where, they felt, the war against Japanese aggression was being vigorously pursued and

where concrete steps leading toward a reformation of China's old feudal society were being laid.

After V-J Day when it became obvious that Chiang Kai-shek, backed by American advice, money and guns, was bent on resuming the civil war, the students undoubtedly became the most vocal of the many groups opposed to the war. The post-war years are filled with instances in which the KMT brutally suppressed student anti-war demonstrations. The universities were filled with spies and visits from the secret police became commonplace.

Some inkling of the extent of sufferings of the students during these years would be revealed by the periodic anncuncements of the government that this or that student had "died" or had "committed suicide" while being detained in jail.

Students Enthusiastic

Following liberation China's students have been among the most articulate of the numerous sections of the population which have enthusiastically joined in the construction of a new nation. As each major educational center was liberated, hundreds and thousands of students temporarily abandoned their studies to join the troops and the cadres for revolutionary work. The "going south" corps, which were formed as each city was liberated, have been largely composed of students. In the older liberated areas where land redistribution is being carried out, as well as in the more newly liberated regions where rent reduction campaigns are in swing, a large proportion of the field workers have been students.

* * *

IT is difficult for one not conversant with modern Chinese history to appreciate the important role played by the nation's students. In Western countries student activities do not normally take on such a national and political character. In America, particularly, student activities are largely centered around their own immediate problems and affairs.

In China, however, the students have occupied a most prominent political and social position. Partially this stems from the ancient tradition of respect and importance to the scholar class. More directly, though, it has been because the students were one of the few literate and articulate classes in a country which was seeing the end of an old society.

The empire died and in its place came the warlords. The country was humbled in a series of conflicts with technically advanced Western powers and, upon more than one occasion, appeared to be on the verge of being carved up for colonies by the major Western powers. As the country's new educated class, the students naturally became part of the leadership against both the old feudal society and against the conditions which resulted in the country's constantly being at the mercy of aggressive outsiders.

The students have been a comparatively well-knit force chiefly because of the widespread lack of civil liberties and the uncertain political situation. Opposed to the status quo, their rights were generally trampled on and the fact that students were gathered in schools and universities provided a natural unity for them and enabled them to carry out an organized and collective influence on the rest of the community.

Each school usually had a student union and these bodies generally were federated into city and national unions. By means of such organization they were able to arouse the mass sentiments of the people through demonstrations which usually were the most effective means of bringing issues before the public.

Because of the long series of rotten and inept administrations, there has constantly been a widespread sentiment for change and reform. Thus, the student demonstrations nearly always met with public sympathy and encouragement, if not active support.

* * *

FOR the first time in several decades China has a government which the country's students can work for and support. In the past, student demonstrations agitating against some measure or policy of the government were almost commonplace. Hardly a week passed in such educational centers as Shanghai, Nanking and Peking which did not see a student protest of one sort or another. Likewise, hardly a week passed without the implementation of some new repressive measure by the Kuomintang government.

Today, too, hardly a week passes without some sign of student activity. However, such activities now take a rather different form than in the past. A campaign against speculators, a drive to help the sale of victory bonds, a movement to enlist personnel to aid the government in land reform, such are the tasks to which China's students now turn.

Lu Hsun's Statement

In 1936 shortly before his death China's famous modern author and teacher, Lu Hsun, foresaw the revolutionary role which the country's students were to play.

"From the reality of the upsurges throughout the country, brought about by the spontaneous movement of the students, the majority of the Chinese nation who do not wish to become slaves have consciously arisen and have shown their iron determination to destroy the semi-colonial yoke which the enemy has placed upon us. The students are the most sensitive fighters, and the foremost sentries in the struggle for liberation of semi-colonial nations. So it was not difficult for their spontaneous movement for national salvation to influence the whole country and even the whole world, which is now wavering at the cross roads between light and darkness."

Today the task of liberation, both from internal despotism and imperialist aggression, has been completed and the work for the future takes a new turn. From a movement which was primarily engaged in exposing and attacking the evils of the Kuomintang, the student movement in China, like the rest of the nation, is now turning its efforts to building a new society.

— *JULIAN SCHUMAN*

Landlords' Tricks

By now, the methods by which landlords try to evade taxation and registration of their land holdings are well known. This cartoon from the *Giefang Rhbao* depicts a few. From left to right, starting with the top row: 1) Bribing peasants not to reveal facts of land holdings; 2) Another form of bribery; 3) Forcing tenants to sign false statements; 4) Transferring land title to accomplice; 5) Threats ("I have a son on Taiwan"); 6) Pleading poverty.

Letter from Kaifeng

Since the second and last liberation of Kaifeng—October 24, 1948—a great many changes have taken place in the city. During this year and a half the local authorities have brought about a considerable transformation which is reflected in virtually all aspects of life. Review correspondent Mark M. Lu writes of some of these changes.

* * *

PRIOR to liberation the most prosperous types of industrial and commercial enterprises were the luxury or semi-luxury lines, while the majority of the city's basic industry remained in a generally stagnant condition. Since liberation those enterprises which are closely related to the livelihood of the people have been speedily rehabilitated and now are generally thriving. On the other hand, those concerns which in the past catered to the tastes of the feudal landlords and the bureaucratic capitalists have experienced a deep depression.

A glance at the municipal statistics for business houses licensed before and since the liberation is sufficient to see to what extent this is true.

In the past year and a half, for instance, the number of cotton and cloth shops has increased from 65 to 87, leather and hide shops from 147 to 201, coal shops from 118 to 150, weaving shops from 107 to 159, material dyeing shops from 133 to 169, tin shops from 91 to 111, while the city's 19 firms which engaged in the transportation of native goods, which were suspended prior to liberation, have all resumed business. Grain, oil, salt and other types of provision shops have also multiplied.

Meanwhile, the number of shops specializing in making foreign-style clothes has fallen from 42 to 22, high-class Chinese tailor shops from 200 to 100. Gold and silver shops, as well as jewelry and watch shops have also decreased in number.

The reduction in the number of these "luxury" shops does not necessarily mean that the owners have become bankrupt or have left the ranks of the city's businessmen. The majority have simply switched to new lines of activity more in keeping with the times. A large number of Chinese tailor shops have now turned to the manufacture of military uniforms, either on an independent basis or on a contract arrangement with the military clothing factories. The sofa shops, for example, are now turning out spinning machines, while many of the foreign style leather shoe shops are now concentrating on military shoes.

Bureaucratic Capital

Shortly after the setting up of the new government an intensive campaign was undertaken to uncover all the interests in local economic organizations held by bureaucratic capitalists and war criminals. All of this "bureaucratic capital" has now been confiscated by the state and a number of new state-owned companies have been established.

The principal state-run administrations or companies include railways, postal service, telephone service, highways, banks, a trade company, agricultural engineering company, oil extracting factory, sulphur refining factory, weaving factory, match factory, cigarette factory, flour mills, printing factory and pharmaceutical factory.

Between May of last year and the present time, six public factories and four other factories jointly owned by the state and private individuals have been established. The public or state factories are:

An oil extracting factory which produces 187,000 *catties* (one catty equals 1.102311 pounds or one-half kilogram) per month; a match factory which produces 700 cases per month; a sulphur refining factory which turns out 960 *catties* per day; a weaving factory producing 700 *pi* (one pi is approximately 110 foreign feet) per month and a pharmaceutical factory which turns out 50 different kinds of medicine in tablet form and 10 different types of medicine for injection, in addition to various other types of specifics such as ointments, powders, etc.

The joint state-private companies include the Pulin Power plant, the Yifeng Flour Mill, the Hsinmin Egg Factory and the Tienfeng Flour Mill. The capital of these four plants is the equivalent of 45,000,000 *catties* of wheat, of which 40,000,000 *catties* represents shares held by the state.

Private Factories

Prior to liberation Kaifeng had a total of 4,466 private business establishments employing 8,550 workers. The present number is 4,834 separate firms employing 12,591 workers.

Of particular interest is the fact that the newly-transferred factories which have come to Kaifeng from other cities, especially those along the coast, are finding conditions quite satisfactory. The Lunghua Tobacco Company, for instance, which recently moved here from Shanghai, is now enjoying a thriving business and reports a rapidly increasing output.

Other newly-arrived factories, as well as older ones which have not been in operation for a number of years, are making preparations to resume production. The Sinkang Egg Factory which suspended operations long before liberation has resumed operations. The Yuming Match Factory and the Tientung Cotton Mill have about completed preparations and are expected to begin work shortly. The Pafang Chemical Factory is now in operation, refining peanut and cotton seed oils for use as gasoline and kerosene substitutes. The Tachang and Kwangwu Egg Factories are also making preparations for early resumption of business.

The changes in the city's economic life which have come with liberation have raised the hopes of the Kaifeng people greatly. For a number of years local residents, as well as other observers, have contended that Honan province would some day become one of the big commercial and industrial centers of the nation. In fact, during the war with Japan, the Chungking government even went so far as to "talk" and "plan" for such a development in the future. However, like most of the other schemes of that regime, the idea of developing the riches of this province remained "on paper."

Now, however, the past year and a half have shown the people that at long last they will have an opportunity to exploit the agricultural and other resources of the province for the benefit of the broad mass of the population.

* * *

Educational Developments

AS the educational center of the province, the changes which liberation has brought to Kaifeng's schools have been particularly noticeable. At the time of the second liberation, the city possessed more than 100 schools of all categories, with a total of some 2,000 teachers and 30,000 students.

From the beginning the Military Control Commission attached great importance to the educational and cultural workers. Most of the school teachers were asked to continue at their posts. The first changes in the curriculum saw the throwing out of Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang principles, formerly a compulsory course, dropping of the civics course, and abolition of military training. Classes were resumed immediately after the occupation.

During the past winter and summer vacations, the local educational authorities have held "Hsueh-hsi" (learning and study) meetings through which the teachers have been given a chance to learn to distinguish between the old feudal culture and the new democratic culture, between revolution and counter-revolution. Everyday, during spare time, the teachers study politics. At the end of each month they have a general review and draw up a summary of their past four weeks' studies.

This intensive system of studying has had rather astonishing results. The political consciousness of the teachers has been greatly enhanced, while their cultural level has also been raised. As a result of the heightened political consciousness of the teachers and students, the schools have introduced the democratic control system in which committees, responsible to the entire school personnel, supervise the running of the institution.

One of the first steps of the new authorities following liberation was to aid the "refugee" schools which had moved into Kaifeng prior to liberation

to return to their old locations. Fourteen such schools were repatriated. Other physical changes included the amalgamation of five schools into the Kaifeng Middle School and the Chienkuo College. Two schools were closed.

An investigation of the records and standing of the city's teachers was also made. Three general requirements were set up as qualification for continued teaching: 1) That the teacher possess a relatively clean record; 2) That his views be progressive and not reactionary; 3) That his educational qualifications be sufficiently high.

Following the establishment of these guilding rules, a small number of teacers who in the past actively committed crimes against students and follow teachers were dismissed. Those who had been forced to participate in the KMT's anti-revolutionary activities were allowed to continue teaching but were required to undergo special study and training. Those who had resisted KMT pressure and who exhibited progressive tendencies were promoted.

With regard to the students, they have shown in virtually all respects that their political consciousness, which even before the liberation was relatively well developed, has been heightened considerably. Their organizational ability and learning spirit have also been enhanced. In each school there is a student union.

In the city itself there are now 85 schools. Of these 35 are public primary schools with 635 teachers and 17,737 students and 20 private primary schools with 157 teachers and 3,578 students. From these figures it can be seen that a large number of young children of school age are not studying. Great efforts are being made, however, to open new schools.

In this connection the authorities are encouraging the opening of additional private primary schools. The Culture and Education Bureau, which supervises all primary schools in the city, has promulgated three principles governing the opening and operating of private schools: 1) The purpose of founding a private primary school must not violate the aims of the new democratic education; 2) The school's funds and equipment must reach a certain minimum required level; 3) The board of directors and the principal must not be selected from anti-revolutionary elements.

As a result of these new regulations, 15 of the city's private primary schools have been granted registration, five have been put on probation, while two have been closed.

In addition to improving their own knowledge and cultural standing, the students are busy making their contribution to the general community. Wall newspapers put up by students are appearing in the city's main streets. The schools are fast becoming one of the leading centers for the spread of the new democratic culture.

— MARK M. LU

Shanghai's Various Taxes

Shanghai's various taxes were listed, with a few lines of explanation, in two recent issues of the Giefang Rhbao (Liberation Daily). They include three main tax classifications—Direct Tax, Commodity Tax and Local Tax—each of which has several subdivisions.

* * *

I. DIRECT TAX

1) Business tax:

The tax is collected once every two months from all industrial and commercial enterprises that carry out profit seeking business transactions in the municipality. The business tax is collected at a certain percentage of the total business receipts, including sales proceeds, commissions, remuneration, procedural charges, remittance charges, interests, insurance premiums and other incomes. In general the tariffs are lower for enterprises that are beneficial to the people's livelihood.

2) Income tax on profit enterprises:

This tax is collected from all profit making enterprises, and the tariffs are graded in accordance with the amount of profit (a higher tariff for larger amount of profit). The amount of profit is obtained by deducting various expenses and losses from the total income. The income tax on profit enterprises for 1949 will be collected before the end of March.

Beginning from March 1, an industrial and commercial tax has been introduced to replace the business tax and income tax on profit enterprises.

3) Stamp tax:

Revenue stamps are to be affixed on all documents for the stamp tax.

4) Income tax on interest from deposits:

The tax is collected, at five percent, from interest derived from deposits in financial enterprises and from government bonds or corporation bonds as well as the insurance money paid to the insured at the maturity of the insurance which is in excess of the amount of savings and the total insurance premium.

* * *

II. COMMODITY TAX

The taxable goods include both domestic and foreign products, covering 51 categories, ranging from tobacco to fibres, drinks, daily necessities, industrial goods, construction materials, cosmetics, superstitious articles, agricultural products, mineral products and so forth. The newly promulgated list of taxable goods provided 18 more categories than the old list.

The commodity tax is collected on the basis of commodity prices, which are computed once every month by taking the average of the wholesale prices during the last five days of each month. Upon completion of the payment of commodity tax, tax labels are issued by the Commodity Tax Bureau, to be affixed on goods which may be marketed throughout the country without being retaxed.

(At present commodity tax on stocks and the newly listed taxable goods is being collected.)

* * *

III. LOCAL TAX

1) House Tax:

All houses are liable to the house tax, payable by the tenants or the party occupying the houses.

2) Vehicle and vessel tax:

All vehicles using the public thoroughfares and vessels navigating in the waterways under the jurisdiction of this municipality are required to pay this tax. The tax for motor vehicles is payable once every season, and for non-motor vehicles and ships once every half year.

3) Land value tax:

The land value tax is collected from landowners. For the second half of 1949, the tariff was seven per mille of the value of the land.

Measures for the collection of the land value tax for the first half of the current year have not yet been announced.

4) Slaughter tax:

The tax, at the rate of 10 percent, is collected from abattoirs for the slaughtering of hogs, oxen, sheep, mules and horses.

5) Amusement tax:

All cinema houses, theaters, opera houses, ballrooms and amusement centers are to pay amusement tax. The tariff is 25 percent on the tickets sold at amusement resorts and 50 percent for ballrooms.

6) Feast tax:

The tax is paid by customers of restaurants, with the tariff set at 15 percent. The present exemption limit is JMP20,000.

Other taxes:

Hotel tax, municipal construction surtax, etc.

A Short Story

The Story of My Brother

Li Ta-lu

WE were brought up and educated in Shanghai. Elder brother went to study engineering in Germany. At the outbreak of the second World War he went to France and when that country was occupied by the enemy he moved to England. When he returned in 1945 we found him thoroughly "Europeanized" after having been away over 11 years. He seemed to be very knowledgeable and full of plans for serving our country. He talked about building civic halls, public libraries, theaters, stations, docks, bridges and so on. He talked about getting to know certain important architects, mechanical engineers, contractors and builders, and government officials, all as preliminary preparation for his service to the country.

I adored him and also envied him. Our parents had spent so much money for his education that they had nothing left to send me abroad. I had to be content with a degree from a missionary university.

Elder brother did not forget his personal happiness. He was in love with Dora, daughter of a government official. She was also from Shanghai and had been in America for 15 years. They did not get married because he said that he must earn enough to support his wife and family. His plan was to have a large house in the former French Concession with servants, a car and chauffeur and a regular, large annual income. He could not possibly marry Dora at any lower standard.

Mother naturally was most anxious to see him married and I tried to persuade him, too. I always said to him, "If you truly love each other, it does not matter what you have. You should marry now and build up your household gradually."

His reply was always, "Ta Lu, you do not understand. You have never been abroad. Do you think Dora can live in a two-room flat and go about in trams or buses? You do not understand."

* * *

HE tried to get a good job. Between 1945 and 1949 he tried several posts—teaching in universities, working in the Municipal Government of Shanghai, in the Central Government in Nanking and for private firms. He had a few good commissions, but the payments were always about six months in arrears, and with the inflation the money lost its value before he got it. After four years, his dream of a happy married life, a comfortable home and serving the country was no nearer to its realization than at the beginning.

I did not know what he thought and felt in those years. I was working in Central China and we seldom wrote to each other. Mother gave his news in brief. Occasional notes from him made me feel that he was becoming less and less confident and less and less hopeful.

Last August I returned to Shanghai for a short visit. He had become utterly bitter and cynical and worried. For a long time, he had not taken Dora out. He had come to believe that China was a hopeless country, whatever its government might be. He was convinced that Chiang Kai-shek's government was thoroughly corrupt and selfish, but the new government, the "Communist" government would be no better, probably worse. This change of government was just another of those changes of dynasties during the last 4,000 years; no one would receive any benefit except the officials and army leaders. The Communists were uneducated, from the country and had not seen the world, except for a few like Chou En-lai, at the top. Even Mao Tse-tung had never been abroad, probably not even to Hongkong. The Communists did not allow personal freedom, did not understand "democracy" and took orders from Moscow. No, China under the new government was not his country.

He regretted that he had not gone to Hongkong before the Communists came. He could still go now, but what about a job? Hongkong must be crowded with people. He might not even be able to get a cheap lodging; it would have to be cheap now for he had no money. I expressed a little, only a little, of my views regarding the new government, but it was no use. Our family had lost the only son. China had lost a very highly trained engineer.

* * *

MOTHER wrote last November that the Peking People's Government had invited him to join the Department of Construction. He accepted and was very glad to have some sort of a salary to support himself. However, he was under no illusion as regards actual work and accomplishment. It would be just office work, paper work, making plans on paper, like any other. He knew it, because he had done it for four years in Shanghai and Nanking, though not like some who had done it for 20 or 30 years. But he must live. So he went to Peking.

I was most anxious to know how he would fare. I wrote affectionately, frequently and always tried to tell him that he was lucky to be working in the capital. I begged him to tell me as much as possible. He answered. but very briefly and always said he was busy and happy. I could scarcely believe his words.

Last month I got a job in Peking. When I first met my brother he hugged me so tightly that I felt almost strangled. He was full of energy and laughter. His face beamed. I asked what had happened and he replied, "Haven't I told you in my letters that I am very happy?"

Since then we have seen each other many times. He tells me one hundred and one things their department is doing, emphasizing the word "doing." For example, the three lakes in the Forbidden City are being drained now by the soldiers of the People's Liberation Army, working like bees. The mud, very rich, is to be used for fertilizing the farms. Farmers do not have to pay anything for it; they just have to come and carry it away. If they do not have enough hands to carry it, the city government, that is, my brother's department, makes arrangements for the PLA soldiers to help them. The lakes will be clean, with their water level lower. The farmers will get better crops for nothing.

He tells me another example. Streets and lanes in many parts of the city are full of holes and piles of black mud. The city sewage system is being repaired for the first time since it was laid down in the Ming Dynasty (1368 A.D.—1644 A.D.). My brother asks me whether this is paper planning, and why I don't go out and see things for myself. I have to remind him constantly that I, too, am a government worker and do not need him to educate me!

As regards his salary, a large house and a car, he has forgotten how he could ever have had such ambitions. He and mother have enough to eat and a small house to live in. His salary, though low, is among the highest in the government. He has no time even to dream of anything more.

I once asked him when he was going to marry Dora.

"She is no longer in my mind," he said. "When she is willing to come out of her comfortable home, work and learn about the new China, then I'll be interested in her."

Autumn Harvest—by Tu Ke

Czechoslovakia Today

A Labor member of the British Parliament describes his impressions and refutes some popular misconceptions about Czechoslovakia after a recent visit to that country.

BEARING in mind the somewhat acid pronouncements of our government after the events of February 1948, and the fairly constant stream of vituperation which continues to flow on short waves into Czechoslovakia, I could not reasonably have registered either surprise or resentment if I had been coldly and distantly received in Prague. Even my name might well have been considered unfortunate in a country with vivid and painful memories of Munich! But after crowded days in Prague and Bratislavia, in rural Bohemia and the mountains of Slovakia, after talks with ministers, trade union officials, industrial and agricultural workers, students and teachers, and after visits to factories, farms, schools and hospitals, I return to England amazed at the friendliness of the Czech people, their lively gratitude for our hospitality to their government and people in the darkest days, and their ardent desire for a return to the close and cordial relationship of former days.

Why should there be this estrangement, they ask? Why should their friendly and mutually helpful relations with Russia and Eastern Europe generally preclude equally friendly and helpful relations with Britain? Where have they sinned, they asked, in ordering their internal affairs in the way they desire just as does Great Britain?—though in our case possibly subject to some gentle influence from Washington, they smilingly suggest. And lastly, why this incessant talk of war, and why this piling of armaments in the West, when what the Czech nation ardently desires above all is tranquility in which to build up their productivity and the standard of life of the people, to repair the ravages of war and strengthen the economic foundations of the country?

Rebuilding Activities

This strong will to independence and rehabilitation, national, political, and economic, is manifest in every phase of the country's activity—it is to be seen in the detailed and ambitious program of the Five Years Plan, in the charts and graphs of production which meet the eye in every department of every factory, and often at the street corners too; it is proclaimed in the decision of many schools, by unanimous vote of teachers and children, to work a six-day (instead of five-day) week, as their contribution to national recovery; and perhaps above all it is exhibited in the voluntary work of "brigades," which spend evenings or weekends or longer periods on work of national importance, such as the building of roads, the construction of a water pipe-line, the leveling of ground around new blocks of flats and, most picturesque and ambitious of all, the building of 18 miles of railway by youth brigades, high up in the mountains of Slovakia.

A full description of this amazing project is not possible here; suffice it to say that here is embodied and epitomized not only the vigor and determination of youth, not only the spirit of selfless devotion to country, but also the qualities of cooperation and comradeship which mean so much in the training of youth and in the building of a country. There is a gleam and a light in the eye of youth, but let it not be thought from this that the pulse of more mature manhood and womanhood is sluggish or faltering; far from that—a woman civil servant of middle years tells me how she works on a new road at the weekend, and an elderly worker on a state farm in the north of Bohemia recounts with pride his plans for doubling the acreage of his fruit nurseries and vegetable fields.

Mistaken Assumptions

All this means something very fundamental and deep-seated, something which our Western democracies would be ill-advised to ignore. Nor could such a spirit conceivably spring from fear and oppression, either from within or from without the country. It would be well, therefore, for opponents of the regime and of its liaison with Moscow to disabuse their minds of certain fallacies which are entirely at variance with the facts but which, through constant reiteration in the press, on the radio, and as counters of conversation, are accepted in many quarters as established facts. Let me add that the purpose of my visit was purely objective—I set out neither to praise nor to blame the Czechoslovak regime, but to ascertain the facts of the situation; and in my quest I was greatly assisted by the complete frankness and lack of reserve of all with whom I discussed these matters—Fierlinger, deputy prime minister; Clementis, foreign minister; Erban, minister of social welfare; Outrata, vice-minister for planning; Johns, chairman of the assembly; Mrs. Hodinova, vice-chairman of the assembly and chairman of women's organizations—and a host of other men and women in all walks of life.

Any my conclusions on these widespread and widely accepted assumptions? It is not true that the people are cowed, regimented and dragooned—this would be a complete contradiction of all I have described above. It is not true that there is pressure and interference from Moscow—an incident related to me by Clementis, the foreign secretary, and described later shows the real relationship between the two capitals, which is one of friendly cooperation and helpfulness, particularly in the trade requirements and shortages of Czechoslovakia. It is not true that this is a "police state" or that Russian soldiers keep the people in subjection—the whole idea is so derisory to any observer who travels the country that it seems superfluous to spend time in exploding it; and yet it is widely canvassed and I suppose, believed, by many in this country. The Czech police are friendly, courteous and cooperative, alike to their own people and to foreigners; they are no more in evidence in Prague and Bratislavia than are the British police in London and Edinburgh—and they are of very much the same efficient and reliable type. As for the myth of the Russian military—I saw exactly five USSR soldiers during my stay in the country and my journeyings of about a thousand miles, and they were at a performance of "La Boheme" in Prague—a delegation from Moscow in connection with some anniversary celebration. If I had desired, I could have unearthed exactly two more, at the Russian Embassy in Prague.

No Religious Persecution

One other categorical denial. It is not true that the Church of Rome or her adherents in Czechoslovakia are persecuted or oppressed. Now it is true that there are differences and controversies between the Catholic hierarchy and the government, and that the weapon of excommunication has been wielded by Rome. But it is not true that Archbishop Beran is a prisoner in his palace—he is free to move when and where he wishes in the country—and the crowded congregations in churches, and the religious processions to be seen in rural areas, especially in Slovakia, prove how unfounded is the talk of persecution and suppression of religion.

The controversy between church and state has its roots deep in the history of the country—in the age-long association of the Roman Catholic Church with the early feudal over-

"Smash Rumors" from the Giefang Rhbao

lords, who oppressed the peasantry in those middle ages when the Czech nation was in its birth-pangs, and in the later oppression of German and Austrian emperors in Bohemia and of Hungarian nobles in Slovakia. Still bearing these wounds in their bodies and in their minds, the people are determined that the church shall be absolutely free and unfettered to order spiritual matters, but not to interfere in temporal matters, the province of the government.

Admittedly this is a difficult situation, by reason of the ancient and fundamental claim of the Roman Catholic Church to extend its province far beyond what are ordinarily deemed to be religious concerns. And the controversy has been considerably exacerbated by the stated intention of the government to make itself responsible not only for the maintenance of church property, but also for the salaries of all priests and ministers of religion. It is difficult to see how the controversy will be resolved, but it is clear beyond any doubt that the government is opposing, not the church, but the encroachments of the Roman hierarchy.

As for Archbishop Beran, the facts are that after some sporadic and noisy anti-clerical demonstrations against him in Prague Cathedral and elsewhere, the government decided that for his own personal protection it was desirable he should have a guard escort when he left the precincts of his cathedral and palace, in exactly the same way that ministers have a police escort. To this the Archbishop objected, and has for some weeks refused to leave his palace; but he is entirely free to come and go as he likes, and there is no police guard of any kind around his palace, as I verified by personal inspection.

Incidents in Moscow

To revert to the relations between Prague and Moscow, and to a revealing incident recounted to me by Mr. Clementis, the foreign secretary. Negotiations regarding a certain matter of mutual interest to Czechoslovakia and Russia recently took place in Moscow, and at the official level there was failure to agree, and deadlock; the two foreign ministers then took a hand and were likewise unsuccessful. At this point Mr. Clementis had a personal talk on the subject with Mr. Stalin, as a result of which the difficulty was resolved in five minutes—in favor of Czechoslovakia! An anecdote of this kind can have but one meaning—that bullying or dictation or pressure by Moscow is no more than a fiction of over-vivid imaginations.

No, this is a country of confidence, of optimism, of a lively and not a broken spirit. There are, of course, disappointed and disgruntled elements, particularly among the dispossessed former owners of businesses, stores and factories now publicly owned. But even these were offered managerial or other posts in the reorganized concerns, and the ex-ministers who are alleged to have "escaped" abroad after the events of February 1948, were free to stay unharmed and unmolested in Czechoslovakia had they so desired.

The policy of the government towards the expropriated owners of works and businesses is both helpful —in that they have been offered salaried positions—and at the same time cleverly designed in the matter of compensation. Ministers explained to me that no decision has been reached regarding this question, nor is it likely to be until the successful outcome of the Five Years Plan is assured. This has had four most salutary effects—first, these ex-owners are constrained to take managerial or similar positions; second, they will work diligently since they have a vested interest in the success of the Plan; third, the country is not borne down by heavy compensation liabilities; and fourth, the former capitalist class is unlikely to join political movements against the state.

New Farming Methods

The government's policy is equally clever and far-sighted in its rehabilitation of the countryside. Methods of cultivation and of farming generally are in the main old-fashioned and even archaic. Not only are their tools and instruments far removed from those of this mechanized age, but the old patriarchal system has left its visible marks on the countryside in the form of an infinity of narrow strips of variegated crops—the very negation of scientific and intensive cultivation. To attempt to impose modern methods on very individualistic and suspicious peasants would be worse than useless, so the policy of the government is to coax and suggest and to demonstrate what can be done to achieve better results with infinitely less expenditure of time and labor. State farms are located at various points, and regular demonstrations are given; and the most up-to-date machinery is made available from state depots at nominal cost to the peasants, together with expert advice and assistance. Then, to quote Mr. Outrata, the deputy minister of planning, "at least the younger generations come to see the advantage of mechanized and intensive cultivation, and instead of laboring from dawn to dusk with meager results, the young farm-hand works his eight hours and is then free to don his best clothes and go courting in the village or the town nearby."

Oh, yes, this is a government which leads and guides, but does not compel; and a country of friendliness and toleration, of vigorous folk who are intent on the rebuilding of their country, whose real fear is the resurgence of a Nazi Germany, and who desire peace and friendship with all the world, and especially with Britain. Whether we like or dislike the political regime of Czechoslovakia, would it not be wiser to cease these misrepresentations about her, and this glib talk of war and of an "iron curtain?" And even to consider grasping the hand of friendship which she extends to us from the deep heart of Europe?

— RONALD CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.
(Reprinted from The Christian World)

British MP Says Czech People Support Government

In another article, published in the British Weekly, Mr. Chamberlain, who is a Labor member of Parliament, reviewed postwar political developments in Czechoslovakia.

* * *

"THE first government of the liberated republic was formed at Kosice (Eastern Slovakia) on April 2, 1945," he said, "and the program agreed on there by representatives of all the democratic parties (the 'National Front') has gone down to history as the 'Kosice' program.

"The events of February 1948 are often termed 'revolutionary,' but in fact they meant no more than the resignation of 12 non-Communist ministers and their constitutional replacement by others, mainly Communists, nominated by Mr. Gottwald, the prime minister.

"It is true that there had been a good deal of friction between Communist and non-Communist elements, both in the cabinet and in parliament, and it is equally true that there is today a dissident minority, consisting mainly of those who lost power and position in the changeover to the new economic setup. But that the people as a whole are solidly behind the government there can be no doubt at all — it is to be seen in the energy and enthusiasm with which they are carrying out the Five Years Plan for national recovery, and in the popularity of the president, Mr. Gottwald, who was prime minister in the crisis days of February 1948, and of the members of the present administration."

Regarding Czechoslovakia's relations with the Soviet Union, Mr. Chamberlain wrote: I had always felt that the tales so frequently heard of dictation from Moscow, and the Cominform must be either manufactured or grossly exaggerated, but it needed a visit and close and intensive study on the spot finally to confirm my belief beyond doubt. True, there is close liaison and consultation between the governments of the 'new democracies,' and, indeed, they are building and evolving their political and economic systems on parallel lines. But who shall blame them for this? Is there not close liaison and cooperation between Great Britain and France, and between both and the United States of America?

"I questioned all and sundry, from the foreign minister downwards, regarding this question of Eastern influence and domination, and very often, after refuting the idea and, indeed, demonstrating its absurdity, I was asked whether some pressure from Washington was not experienced in London and in Paris—and I could not truthfully deny the suggestion."

CHINA AFFAIRS

MAY DAY

First in People's China

MAY Day, the working class' holiday the world over, was celebrated for the first time under the People's Republic of China. Throughout the nation an atmosphere of a worker's holiday prevailed in sharp contrast to previous May Days under the scrutiny of the KMT police, troops and special agents.

In celebration of the holiday Liu Shao-chi, Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government delivered an address in which he called attention to the fact that the people's revolution in China is victorious; that the Chinese working class has been liberated; that the regime of the reactionary classes, which despised and oppressed the workers, has been overthrown by the people's forces; and that the working class has established a people's regime with themselves as its foundation. Liu referred to this as the first and greatest victory of the Chinese working class.

The reason why May First is worthy of great and solemn celebration, Liu stated, "is because the world of man and even mankind are the creation of labor. Labor is the foundation on which human society exists and develops. Workers are the creators of civilization. Therefore, labor must command the highest respect in the world..." He also pointed out that May Day "is the festival of the solidarity between us workers and all other laboring people throughout the world. On this day, we must with solemn ceremony honor all that workers have created, celebrate all that workers have achieved by their labor, thank workers for all means of production and life and means of enjoyment of culture and art given by them to mankind and inspire the people to the highest enthusiasm for further labor and creation..."

Peking Parade

MORE than 200,000 people in Peking marched past the platform on historic Tien An-men ("Gate of Heavenly Peace") in the greatest May Day parade China has ever seen and the first since the mainland was liberated.

Planes dipped and scattered leaflets as marchers turned their heads in salute to Chairman Mao Tse-tung and other government figures standing on the high red gateway of the former Forbidden City. The people's army, navy and air force detachments led the way. Behind these came endless columns of workers, peasants, government personnel, students and others under thousands of fluttering banners of scarlet and green silk. Expressions of unity with the working class of the world were shouted with added enthusiasm as the marchers saw on the platforms their fellow workers from other countries.

Among the government figures reviewing the parade were Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Vice-Chairmen Chu Teh, Liu Shao-chi, Soong Ching-ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen), Li Chi-sen and Chang Lan and Premier Chou En-lai of the Central People's Government. Diplomatic personnel present included the Soviet, Czechoslovakian, North Korean, Rumanian, Hungarian and Polish ambassadors. The Indian charge d'affaires, who recently concluded recognition negotiations in Peking, also was present.

* * *

ON April 27, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China issued 38 slogans for the celebrating of this world-wide working class holiday. Some of the slogans directly referring to the nation's workers called for: 1) Development of production is our greatest interest and task! 2) Promote a correct attitude toward work, observe working discipline, raise work efficiency and encourage model workers in production! 3) Resolutely carry out the policy of taking both public and private interest into account and of benefiting both labor and capital.

HAINAN LIBERATED

LESS than three weeks after the PLA launched its all-out offensive against Hainan on April 17, the entire island was completely liberated. A New China News Agency dispatch from Hainan on May 2, revealed that the end of the Hainan campaign found the PLA liberating Yulin, largest port in the south, along with Peili, another imporant port on the west coast of the island. In the process an entire KMT division was wiped out, thus putting the finishing touch to Chiang's most important piece of remaining Chinese territory outside of Taiwan.

Following the final struggle of the KMT main forces in the north and the taking of Haihow and Wenchow, thus winding up the initial stage of its Hainan operations, the PLA drove south in two columns. The column which advanced along the east highway frustrated a KMT attempt in a last-ditch battle and occupied Yulin and Sanya at 4 p.m. on April 30, taking control of the largest air base in south Hainan, the Sanya airfield. The column which headed south along the west coast took Peili on midnight of the same day.

In the course of the PLA offensive, the entire 86th division of the KMT 4th army was smashed near Peili while one warship in the harbor was captured. During the less than half-month's fighting the heavily prepared defenses of the KMT navy, army and airforce were completely shattered and the entire island liberated, according to the NCNA.

NATIONAL

North China Land Reform

AGRARIAN reform is almost completed in the newly liberated areas of North China. Peasants in 25,000 out of 33,500 villages have acquired land as a result of the land reform program. Distribution of land also has been completed in the rural sections around Peking, Tientsin and Taiyuan.

In the province of Suiyuan, agrarian reform has not yet been carried out although rent and interest reduction measures have been carried out. Reform also has been delayed in some localities because of last year's floods which have made the immediate task one of overcoming difficulties and reviving production.

In preparation for land reform the people's governments of the different regions, months before the actual reform began, made careful plans. Conferences of all circles, peasants meetings and meetings of cadres were held to explain the government's land policy. Huge numbers of cadres had been specially trained for the job and land distribution was first carried out in a few villages in order to gain experience.

In the process of distributing the land of the landlords among the peasants, farm implements, houses and livestock were also distributed. However, commercial interests and any trading or industrial establishments belonging to the landlords were left untouched.

In addition, landlords and their families were given land on the same basis as the peasants. This was in line with government policy which, while ending feudal land tenure, is not concerned with destroying landlords as individuals and desires to protect and foster industry and commerce.

Newsmen Confer

PROMINENT space to reporting of national economic reconstruction progress was deemed a necessity for improvement in newspaper work in China. This decision, along with many others, was reached at a conference of journalists in Peking. Improvement in press work and the setting up of a radio receiving network throughout the country will result from the decisions arrived at, which were taken up by the Press Administration.

According to figures given at the Peking conference, there now are 253 journals in China of which 175 are dailies. The proportion of workers and peasants subscribing to newspapers is reported to be rapidly rising.

In addition to increased coverage of economic reconstruction, the conference agreed that one of the main tasks for the improvement of newspaper work was to further strengthen

the ties between the papers and the people. It was also held that papers should give their utmost attention to reader's correspondence and replies to letters.

The newsmen's conference also agreed on the necessity for setting up a large-scale radio network throughout China so that broadcasting could play its part in publicity and education. At present there are 83 radio stations in the country, the largest being the Peking Central People's Broadcasting Station. There are over 1,000,000 radio sets in China, over half of which are in the Northeast and Shanghai.

All branches of the *New China News Agency* are to be under the direction of the head office in Peking. Formerly, under war conditions, *NCNA* had to function both as a news agency for local liberated areas and as branches of the head office.

The Week's Business

Public utilities lower rates as prices continue downward. A domestic remittance control committee has been formed to assure uniformity in rates.

* * *

MILD declines continued to be registered in the commodity market during the week under review. The parity deposit unit dropped from JMP5,569 to JMP 5,471 during the period.

The price trend taken by such essential commodities as cotton yarn is particularly significant. As a result of purchases by state trading organs, the quotation of 20's Kincheng cotton yarn increased from JMP4,500,000 per piece on April 22 to JMP4,700,000 on April 24, JMP4,850,000 on April 25, and further to JMP5,500,000 per piece on April 26, rising by more than 20 percent within the three-day period. It was only when the Shanghai Cotton, Cotton Yarn and Cotton Cloth Corporation resumed its sales of yarn that the quotations began to level off. They came down to JMP4,850,000 per piece on May 2.

These fluctuations in cotton yarn quotations were largely attributed to misinterpretation of the government collection policy on the part of private dealers. While Vice-Premier Chen Yun has announced that continued price declines would be checked, sudden hikes in quotations, of course, are equally undesirable. The purchase of products from private factories by state trading organs has been for the purpose of maintaining production and stabilizing prices.

Vis-a-vis the stabilization of commodity prices in the country, the various public utility enterprises in Shanghai have recently reduced their rates. Reductions for power, water, gas, transportation and so forth range from 10 to 20 percent.

The government banks and state trading corporations, meanwhile, are resorting to every means to aid local industrial and commercial enterprises. In order to provide an outlet for capital of private banks, where deposits are understood to have greatly increased following the recent stabilization in commodity prices, the People's Bank has recently resumed accepting deposits from these private banks at interest. The various state trading corporations in Shanghai are continuing to place orders with privately-run factories and commission them to work for the government.

In the field of industry, 19 local private steel rolling factories are reported to have wholly resumed their production, and during the month of April, some individual factories reported production increases of more than 40 percent. These plants have been able to get back into operation mainly through the orders placed by the East China Industrial Department, which is also supervising their production to raise the quantity and quality of their products.

With a view to centralizing trading in the domestic remittance market, assuming uniform steps and promoting the interflow of supplies between urban and rural areas, the local Bankers' Guild has established a Domestic Remittance Control Committee, which officially came into being on May 2. Altogether 35 local commercial banks and banks jointly operated by state and private interests participate in the committee. Henceforth, domestic remittance rates will be announced every morning by the committee. For May the rates were as follows: Nanking, JMP2 per mille; Tsingtao, JMP6 per mille; Hankow, JMP1 per mille; Canton, Peking and Tientsin, remittance at par; Chungking, JMP5 per mille; Chengtu, JMP10 per mille; Kweiyang, JMP15 per mille; Changsha, JMP5 per mille; Hangchow, JMP1 per mille; Wusih, JMP2 per mille; Chinkiang, JMP2 per mille; Soochow, JMP 2 per mille; Sian, JMP5 per mille; Nanchang, JMP5 per mille and Wuhu, JMP5 per mille.

Quotations

Following is a listing of representative commodity prices.

	April 26 JMP	May 3 JMP
Parity unit ...	5,569	5,471
US dollar (TT)	37,000	37,000
20's yarn	5,000,000	5,050,000
42's yarn	7,800,000	7,600,000
12-lb. cloth ...	255,000	251,000
Rice, 1st grade	265,000	260,000
Battleship flour	72,500	75,000
Peanut oil	470,000	465,000
Coal briquette .	22,500	20,000
Kerosene, Kuokwang ..	120,560	103,840
Koo Pan soap .	168,000	154,000

Technicians for Northeast

THE drive to enlist further technical personnel from all over China for work in the Northeast is continuing satisfactorily. A team from the Industrial Department of the Northeast People's government has been visiting China's principal cities, from Tientsin to as far south as Canton, interviewing applicants.

Applicants include electrical engineering specialists, experienced technicians, professors of technology and recent university graduates. The team from the Northeast has set up registration offices in various cities, and these arrange for the selected technicians' travel and accommodation and provide information on life and general conditions in the Northeast. Facilities are available for persons with families as well as single people.

According to the *New China News Agency*, since February, when the drive began, several thousand people have left for different Northeastern industrial centers, the largest single group coming from Shanghai and totaling over 1,200. Generally speaking, the government's urgent invitation to engineers and technicians to work in the Northeast has met with widespread response throughout the country south of the Great Wall.

Reports reveal that the first question asked by most southerners was about the extremely cold Northeast climate. Some at first were disinclined to live and work in temperatures which fall below zero during the winter months but changed their minds when they were informed that all factories and living quarters were heated.

End Workers' Illiteracy

MEASURES to wipe out illiteracy among China's workers within three to five years have been agreed upon at a special conference on illiteracy by the All-China Federation of Labor at Peking. Estimates on illiteracy in the China inherited from the Kuomintang run around 80 percent for the total population. Regarding workers, it is believed that over half are either illiterate or semi-literate.

The conference, which included delegates from trade unions, cultural organizations and teachers from all parts of the country, decided on opening more spare-time schools for the working population, setting up special committees in all cities to direct workers' education and standardizing text books. Trade unions, the China New Democratic Youth League and cultural bodies will be represented on the committees.

Vice-Minister of Education, Chien Chun-jui, stressed the point that only an enlightened working class could shoulder the task of leading the country. The delegates to the conference listed the rapid progress in the fight against illiteracy which, they claimed, has become a mass movement among workers in Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Harbin, Dairen and many other cities.

Unemployment Relief

THE East China Military-Political Commission has issued a directive calling for the launching of a donation campaign for aid to unemployed workers. The directive, passed at the tenth regular administrative meeting of the Commission, called for the government on all levels to mobilize all incumbent employees and workers to voluntarily contribute one day's earnings for relief of the unemployed. This was in accordance with the demand of the All-China General Labor Union and the actual conditions in east China. Public organizations, schools, party and political organizations, and commanding officers of the PLA in east China were called upon to voluntarily contribute funds or foodstuffs for unemployment relief.

Side With US Film Workers

CHINA'S leading movie, literary and art workers have protested against the US Supreme Court's refusal to re-try the case of Hollywood's John Howard Lawson, Dalton Trumbo and eight of their colleagues.

The All-China Federation of Literature and Arts and the All-China Association of Cinema Workers have issued a statement expressing "wholehearted support for the righteous stand of John Howard Lawson and nine other movie workers and indignant opposition to the increasingly naked anti-democratic, fascist and criminal actions of the reactionary American ruling class...Together with the majority of the American people and people of the whole world who love peace and support democracy," the statement concludes, "we will carry on the struggle on behalf of these courageous film workers until justice is done."

In October, 1947, these 10 progressive and well-known Hollywood writers and directors, who were hailed before the House Committee for Un-American Activities, refused to answer the Committee's questions regarding their politics or their relations with trade unions. As a result, they were arraigned for contempt of Congress and, in April, 1948, were sentenced to a minimum of one year's imprisonment and a fine of US$1,000. The Supreme Court recently refused to review the case.

SHANGHAI

Mayor Reports

IN his report to the Shanghai People's Representatives Conference of All Circles, Mayor Chen Yi attested to the transformation of Shanghai during its 10 months of liberation. Commodity prices and currency have been stabilized; ample supplies of food and coal are coming in from the interior and the city is ruled by the people in their own interests, the mayor stated. Comparing Shanghai at present with Kuomintang days, the mayor said the city was then the victim of wild inflation and skyrocketing prices. It relied on foreign supplies of food and coal; speculators and hoarders forced bona fide industrialists and merchants to either hoard or close down. It was a city controlled by foreign imperialism.

The changes mentioned by the mayor were not brought on by any miracle. The key to the situation was that the Central People's Government did not rely on the printing press for its expenditures but depended on genuine revenue, reorganization of the tax system, the centralization of state finance and the floating of Victory Bonds, the mayor reported.

Chen Yi urged Shanghai industry and trade to overcome all difficulties and carry on their business. He forecast a wide market would open when the liberation of the whole country was completed. He also reported that state-owned enterprises gradually were increasing in Shanghai which also was beneficial to both public and private business. He cited Mukden as an example where the number of workers employed by private industry increased by 18 percent after liberation, side by side with the development of state enterprises. Shanghai still had many difficulties, the mayor related, but these were of a temporary nature and would be overcome.

Employees Rights

EMPLOYEES have the freedom to cancel employment contracts with management, which is not permitted to keep workers in its employ by force, according to the Shanghai People's City Government Labor Bureau. In cases of voluntary resignation, an employee will receive no discharge allowance unless otherwise provided in the labor agreement.

Management, it was deemed, has the power to employ or discharge according to the requirements of production or work. In the event a labor union holds that a dismissal is not reasonable, it has the right to protest to the management. If the latter refuses to accept the protest, the labor union can bring the case before the Labor Bureau for arbitration and mediation.

"Voice" Story Refuted

A report by the "Voice of America" to the effect that prominent Shanghai industrialist, O. S. Liu had attempted to flee to Hongkong because he could not afford to buy Victory Bonds and was detained in Nanchang and then escorted back to Shanghai was refuted by the industrialist himself. At the time of the broadcast, Mr. Liu was attending the second day's session of the Shanghai People's Representative Council.

In a speech delivered on April 21, before the same Council four days later, Mr. Liu stated that present difficulties were caused by the collusion of the KMT and American imperialism and that, if effort was exerted, these difficulties "can certainly be overcome." In a press interview, the well-known industrialist was quoted as saying, "I never listen to such broadcasts. The rumors about me are entirely groundless. We industrial and commercial circles never complain of difficulties and just as Chairman Mao said, we have difficulties, hopes and solutions. These difficulties can be overcome by self-reliance."

RAILWAYS

On Credit Side

FOR the first time in their history the railways of China show a profit on their books. This phenomenon, which took place during the first quarter of 1950, was a complete break with the old tradition of heavy government subsidies.

The northern and southern railways also have made advances, amounting in value to more than 64,000,000 *catties* of rice, to the government for investment in construction projects. The special characteristic of work on China's roads during the first quarter of the year has been the change in emphasis from repair in 1949 to transportation in 1950.

The Northeastern railway administration fulfilled 116 percent of the loading plan set by the Ministry of Railways; Tientsin, 99 percent; Tsinan, 87.3 percent; Taiyuan, 90.4 percent; Chengchow, 143 percent; Shanghai, 115.2 percent and Hengyang, 94 percent.

At a conference called by the Ministry of Railways late last month it was revealed that although the different railway bureaus have carried out government plans in earnest, their greatest difficulty has been in reducing accidents. According to official figures, 1,012 accidents were reported during the first quarter. Trains were derailed as many as nine times in a single day. This showed the need for intensified examination of and repairs to locomotives as well as an increase in maintenance work. Thus, it was decided that for the next quarter repair work on locomotives will be emphasized.

Chinese-Changchun Railway

THE last week in April saw the formal inauguration of the Chinese-Changchun Railway Company.

This was a result of negotiations concluded in Peking between the representatives of the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to implement the first article, regarding the Chinese-Changchun Railway, of the agreement between the two countries on the Chinese-Changchun Railway, Port Arthur and Dairen.

Leading posts in the company will be filled as follows: Chairman of the executive committee, will be a representative from the Chinese side; vice-chairman, a representative from the Soviet side; chairman of the supervisory committee a Soviet representative; chief auditor, a Chinese representative. The director of the Chinese Changchun Railway Administration will be a Soviet representative and the vice-director, a Chinese representative.

These posts alternate between the Chinese and Soviet parties each year beginning from April 25, 1950, when a joint administration was proclaimed, until the date of transference to the government of the People's Republic of China. (The agreement states: "Transfer will be effected immediately upon the conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan, not later however than towards the end of 1952.")

HONGKONG

Not Rich Enough

HONGKONG has not turned out to be a "Temple of Heaven" for many of the well-to-do Chinese who fled there in the wake of the Kuomintang debacle. More and more they are finding themselves in financial difficulty, according to reports published in Hongkong newspapers.

A number of them, shrewd operators on their own home grounds, lost heavily in business undertakings with "more experienced" local merchants, it has been reported. Others, with little or no business experience, were either taken in by shady promoters or were burdened with stocks they now are unable to sell.

Upon arriving in the colony many paid high key money for luxurious apartments with high monthly rentals. With the good times they had expected not forthcoming, many are trying to vacate these apartments for less pretentious abodes. Those with large families and entourages, who have arrived at the bottom of their financial resources, are busily engaged in trying to cut family expenses down to a minimum. All in all, for a good number of these recent arrivals daily living has become operation retrenchment.

Advice to Returnees

OVERSEAS Chinese service organs in Hongkong have issued information to the increasing number of overseas Chinese returning to China regarding the bringing in of currency and supplies. According to this information, returnees are permitted to bring back with them unlimited amounts of US currency notes. However, the amount must be reported and deposited with the Bank of China, otherwise the foreign currency is liable to confiscation. Returning Chinese from abroad are advised not to bring back luxury items such as cosmetics, rayon and piece goods which are subjected to high import duties. However, they are encouraged to bring back industrial raw materials and machinery.

Taiwan Wants Tin

ACCORDING to the Hongkong *Ta Kung Pao*, Taiwan authorities have been inquiring into the price of tin in the colony. The Taiwan No. 60 Arsenal has offered HK$10,092 c.i.f. Taiwan for each ton of 99 percent tin.

Although Singapore tin has a 99.75 percent purity available for export, a restriction of 75 tons per season has been set in Hongkong. Ordinarily, Hongkong grants each applicant 30 percent of the amount requested; however, Singapore tin in Hongkong is not permitted to be re-exported, allegedly for the purpose of avoiding shipments of this metal to the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries. Information has not been made available as yet regarding the Taiwan request.

Articles of Interest:

Canton's Road To Recovery

Canton's industries, sucked dry by the Kuomintang over a long period of extortion, had reached a semi-paralyzed state by the time the People's Liberation Army took over the city. With the active assistance of the People's Government in the five months since liberation, many of the factories have been able to make a fresh start, and despite hardships and difficulties, are on the road to recovery. The Ta Kung Pao of April 14, quoted some specific facts and figures on progress achieved, and methods employed.

* * *

THE measures adopted by the People's Government to restore and foster native industry, the paper said, include 1) the protection of national industry by restrictions on foreign imports; 2) low interest industrial loans by the People's Bank in terms of parity units (where the value is preserved by being based on staple commodities); 3) the purchase of finished products by the government, which undertakes the responsibility of finding markets.

"With the speedy restoration of land and water services after the liberation, and the growing stability of finance, the industrial situation has shown marked improvement," the article reported. "According to incomplete statistics compiled at the end of February, 60 percent of the total 2,719 privately owned factories in the city were operating at full blast, while 30 percent were operating partially. Only 10 percent were suspended completely.

"Of these 2,719 factories, 476 were machine building, 241 rubber, 39 oil crushing, 24 glass manufacturing, 48 mechanical dyeing, 35 rice refining, 16 match manufacturing, 14 printing, 235 weaving, 24 toilet goods, 4 biscuit, 129 knitting, 26 petroleum, 35 battery, 15 pigment, 107 rolling, 865 building contractor, 22 lithographic, 3 enamel, 10 cold storage, 27 lime, 6 electric appliances, 1 flour-milling, 10 canned goods, and 173 others."

The various public-operated factories taken over from the bureaucratic organization known as the "Canton Industrial Corporation" have nearly all resumed operation, the article continued, and whereas under the Kuomintang they "were robbed and depleted to line the pockets of bureaucrats, now they are being used to safeguard the economic life of the people and the economic construction of the whole of Kwangtung." One important new factor in boosting factory efficiency, it said, is the fact that workers are participating in factory management. This has resulted in "a great increase in initiative and interest on the part of the employees, which is reflected in more efficient production" and "is largely responsible for the great strides made since the liberation and development of local industries."

Illustrating how this has worked in some of the government owned factories, the article reported: The government-run Canton textile mill had only 30,000 pounds of cotton stocks on hand when taken over. After the management had settled the question of supply of raw materials, the plant started in February to operate by day as well as by night and soon surpassed pre-liberation levels in both quantity and quality of product.

"In the past, the output of one spindle per 22 hours averaged 0.65 lb., but now the output of one spindle per 20 hours is around 0.63 lb. The maximum production rate in January reached the high mark of 0.66 lb., which represented a boost of nine percent...

"The Shunteh Sugar Factory had its machinery and equipment thoroughly overhauled right after the liberation, and went into full production in December, 1949. A review of progress made on February 14, 1950, showed that marked improvements had been effected in quality, production had increased, and raw materials saved and stored." The consumption of raw materials was less in proportion to production of sugar, the article added, while fuel expenses were saved by the utilization of sugar cane residue for fuel. Breakdowns were reduced to a minimum by careful machinery maintenance.

The Hsitsun Cement Factory, another taken-over plant, went to work on repairing two 200-ton cement kilns with a potentiality of 400 tons of cement daily. The Canton Machine Works, the China Agricultural Machine Company and the Mei Lu Hemp Weaving Factory, all state plants, are back in production, while the Canton Paper Mill is being renovated and will open shortly.

Many difficulties remain to be overcome and purchasing power is still low, the article concluded. But with the completion of land reform in the near future, it predicted the villages will begin to prosper and industrial products will find a ready market.

"The dark days, when our national industry was strangled by the monopoly of bureaucratic capital and by a glutting of foreign products on the market," it said, "are gone. The present difficulties confronting China's national industry are only temporary and are inevitable. They are difficulties national industry is bound to encounter when it is in transition from the old society to a new society. Once the difficulties are overcome, a new vista will be opened before us."

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

WEST UNION

Big Three Spadework

LONDON is the scene of the most important West power conference since the Atlantic Pact was signed more than a year ago. The arrival of US Ambassador-at-Large, Philip Jessup set in motion a series of conferences necessary for the Big Three Foreign Ministers meetings scheduled to open in Paris on May 9. Along with Jessup in London, were the French Ambassador to Britain, Rene Massigli, and Sir William Strang, permanent head of the British Foreign Office.

Although the functions of the three men in London and their teams of experts nominally were limited to preparing the Big Three talks there was little doubt that they were concerned with the Atlantic Pact meetings since both overlap at many points. The aims of both are to review politically, economically and strategically the world situation in the light of developments in Eastern Europe and Asia, particularly China. It was also felt that both conferences would be much concerned with progress in "cold war" policy and the Foreign Ministers Conference was expected to be particularly concerned with the problem of whether or not to reopen direct talks with Moscow.

Acheson Calls Tune

THE foreign ministers' meetings are set to take place in both Paris and London. On May 9, American Secretary of State Acheson is to confer with French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman on his way from Washington to London. In London, Acheson will first talk separately with Foreign Secretary Bevin, and then all three will get together for the first time on May 11. Apparently Acheson is to be the central figure around which the British and French will pivot.

The Big Three talks are expected to lead directly into a three-day session of the 12 Atlantic Pact foreign ministerns in London about mid-May. Some observers have likened the entire procedure, beginning with Acheson's solitary talks with the British and French, as a process of making policy from top to bottom, with America on top.

Super-Government

FRENCH Premier Georges Bidault, no novice in French politics and dating back to Hitler appeasement days, has said that France would urge the foreign ministers to set up an "Atlantic High Council for Peace," which could eventually become a "super-government" of the Atlantic community. The State Department was reported to be interested in the Bidault proposal and was studying the plan.

In Washington, Roscoe Drummond, Marshall Plan European information chief and one-time Washington bureau chief of *The Christian Science Monitor*, has urged the creation of a North Atlantic Political Council to shoulder responsibilities blocked by the Soviet veto in the UN. His claim is that this would strengthen the hand of the US and its allies in the cold war. A North Atlantic council of this nature, free of the possibility of a Soviet veto, could discharge in the Atlantic community "the responsibilities which the UN Security Council is prevented from discharging at Lake Success," according to Drummond.

GREAT BRITAIN

Invalids to the Rescue

BRITAIN'S two month-old Labor government squeaked through its test, with two Conservative Party challenges threatening its downfall and a new general election, by the narrow margin of five votes. Both parties' managers beat the bushes to round up the fit, ailing and bedridden in an effort to get out all the votes. From the start the government's fate hinged on a handful of invalids.

Both Conservative challenges were defeated by 304 votes to 299 with the Liberals voting along with the Conservatives. The challenges called for the rejection of the budget proposal to increase the price of gasoline, and the other rejected the proposal to impose a 33-1/3 percent tax on automobiles.

In its two months of life the government has defeated three previous Conservative motions of confidence with majorities of 14, 19 and 25. The present majority was the lowest yet won by the government. Reports from Parliament revealed that rarely has that august body seen such a collection of crutches, sticks and bandages as all available party members were combed out for the vote.

Bastions of Empire

LESS than two years after relinquishing her 25-year mandate over Palestine, Britain has officially staked a new interest there by formally recognizing the Kingdom of Jordan's annexation of areas seized by the Arab League in its fight against Israel. Jordan has been used as the British wedge against the Arab League in the various political maneuverings taking place in this oil-rich area.

Britain's decision has extended to the entire Jordon-held territory the curtain of "common defense and mutual military assistance" furnished by the Anglo-Jordan alliance of 1948 to meet any aggression. It was revealed that members of the Commonwealth had been consulted and France, America and Turkey, as members of the UN Palestine Conciliation Commission, also were kept informed.

At the same time, Britain gave her final blessing to the state of Israel by raising her recognition from the year-old "de facto" to full "de jure" approval. While rifts and cleavages between Israel and the Arab states continue to exist and the Arab League maintains its economic blockade against Israel, the British apparently are keeping an oar on each side. Official Britain was of the opinion that Israel and Jordan were by far the most stable states in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, Britain is continuing to supply Egypt with arms and supplies. In answer to a question in Commons, it was revealed that jet planes were included in these supplies. One Labor member wanted to know how the supply of arms to Egypt could promote peace in the Middle East when Egypt refused to negotiate any kind of a peace treaty with Israel or allow any other Arab State to do so.

Puzzles of Empire

THE government's April "Anti-Bandit Month" campaign in Malaya had been converted into a "Counter-attack Month" by the forces fighting the British in that southeast Asian colony. The *London Times* felt the solution to this puzzle should be left to British guidance towards greater self-government.

Going over from the realm of "guidance" to more practical aspects the *Times* advocated: "Military and more immediately much more drastic measures must be taken to bring all resources to bear against the rebels. This is a military operation of the greatest importance." The paper, generally credited with reflecting British Foreign Office views, goes on to say Britain must have what is needed to fight and win this war. On the other side of the ledger, the Communist *Daily Worker*, said: "No one dares to pretend that this war is a defense of Democracy in any shape or form. It is quite cynical, avowed suppression of a colonial people in the interests of a handful of great capitalist trusts."

* * *

A RECENT Commonwealth conference on oil in London decided to cut dollar purchases in favor of sterling. Under the new plan if one of the nine countries participating in the conference cuts its purchases of dollar oil by 10 percent, it will then substitute for it an equivalent amount of sterling oil.

Prior to this Commonwealth confab, Washington talks between Britain and America had been puzzling over ways and means of reducing the dollar drain in Britain's oil purchases without unnecessarily discriminating against American oil companies.

FRANCE

Not So Peaceful

WHILE her premier was urging a peace council of North Atlantic nations, the French, at home and abroad, continued to be in need of counsel on peace. A steady stream of battling between trade unions and police as well as accusations of oppression in Algeria was in the news.

In Paris, police arrested 170 workers after a battle for possession of a large nationalized aircraft parts factory in the southern part of the city. Earlier, union leaders had called on nearly 1,000,000 Paris workers to "affirm their solidarity by action" against police seizure of an occupied aviation works and against government policy of staff cuts in nationalized industry. Scores of armed Republican Guards, with tear-gas bombs patrolled the scene of battle with 300 workers for possession of the factory. A few days later police with batons stormed Paris barricades and smashed another workers' attempt to seize a nationalized surburban aviation works. Altogether, 1,200 police and security guards, dozens of police vans, radio cars and ambulances were involved.

The city of Brest was the scene of a march by 5,000 people following the hearse carrying the body of a 26 year-old railwayman who was killed in a clash between workers and police. Several thousand more people crowded the pavement along the route and silently watched the funeral procession. Communist deputies, secretary-general of the General Confederation of Labor and regional leaders of Communist-led, non Communist and Catholic trade unions were in the procession.

The clash followed a demonstration in protest against the arrest of two Communist deputies and two union leaders following the detention of an employer by strikers. As a result, a 24-hour protest strike was called. In Marseilles, southern port of France, leaders of the Seamen's Union called on all seamen to stop work in protest over the Brest incident.

French Colonialism

THE left-wing anti-Communist *Franc Tireur* accused the French administration in Algeria of inventing an "armed insurrection as an excuse for a blood-bath in which Algerian nationalists would be eliminated." Referring to the government's arrest of 154 people the paper said: "All these maneuvers and announcements reveal the existence of a real plot, that of colonialism against the Algerian people.

"In Algeria there reigns an atmosphere of racial pogrom and collective aggression against the Moslem world ... The situation is certainly intolerable, but not in the sense that the lords of the vineyards and of colonial exploitation intend. The time has come to appreciate that, if even only from the point of view of defending democracy, such insolent and rapacious colonialism has become adversary No. 1 of any sort of security."

PACIFIC PACT

Groundwork Laid

THE groundwork has been laid in Manila in connection with the proposed southeast Asia Union in anticipation of the organizational conference scheduled to be held in Baguio at the end of this month.

With the Philippines apparently chosen as the spot from which the union will be launched, President Quirino disclosed that specific instructions as to organizational structure would not be forthcoming until the return of Carlos Romulus from the United States.

Meanwhile, Australia's new resident minister in London has stated that the Pacific Powers should get together for an agreement on the lines of the Atlantic Pact. Lord Mancroft, a Conservative Party spokesman, has urged full British support for New Zealand's proposed Pacific Pact against communism, stating, "The strategy of the Western democracies for resisting communism in the Far East, is at the moment, an uncoordinated jumble and Britain is carrying too much of the burden. We must join together."

The influential *Financial Times* of London has attested to the need for an enlarged American role in Asian affairs. In any grand strategy for dealing with the political and economic problems of southeast Asia and for checking "the encroachment of communism" it is clear that America will need to play a substantially larger and more important role than she has done so far, according to this spokesman of British finance.

INDO-CHINA

French and Bao Dai Agree

THE more than three week-old Bao Dai government crisis, sparked mainly by the wrangle over how American aid was to be handled, has ended and agreement has been reached on US aid distribution. Following the resignation of Premier Nguyen Phan Long, an advocate of leaving the French out of the administration of US supplies.

Bao Dai charged Governor Tran Van Huu with the duty of forming a new cabinet. Prior to Long's resignation three ministers had resigned earlier, complaining of the lack of freedom to act in their respective spheres.

The agreement on distribution of US aid was announced by the French High Commissioner, Leon Pignon, in Saigon. The agreement, he claimed, had been reached between the French army and the state of Vietnam. The American aid would be allocated through the "Service Francais du Materiel." At the same time Pignon said the attachment of US military observers to French divisions operating against Ho Chi Minh's forces had not been discussed.

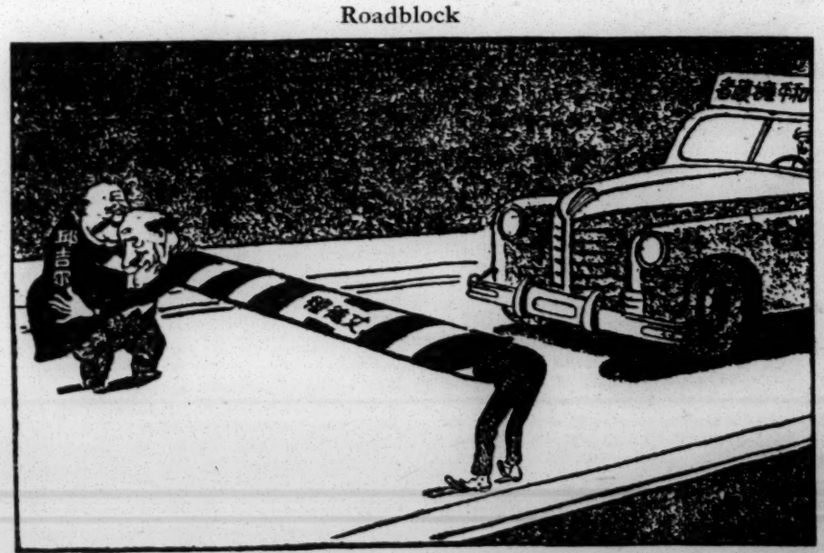
Newspapers Suspended

THE Vietnamese government suspended four newspapers in Saigon recently. The reasons were understood to be: 1) Publicity given to clandestine leaflets. 2) Subversive articles. 3) "False information" regarding military operations.

In addition to these four Vietnamese papers, still another daily was suspended for having criticized the Franco-Vietnam agreement of March 8, 1949.

At the same time, about 30 women were arrested when several hundred

Roadblock



British Prime Minister Attlee and Winston Churchill try to bar the road against peace in this cartoon from "Izvestia," reprinted in the Shanghai "Ta Kung Pao." Conservative and Labor parties are now considering a bi-partisan foreign policy.

Vietnamese women demonstrated outside a government building in Saigon. The women were protesting the refusal of permission to take food to prisoners in a prison nearby the government building.

* * *

THE latest among numerous Vietminh attacks has been an assualt on a military train on the Nhatrang-Saigon line. Police immediately banned all public meetings in the Cholon area after arresting 15 people and seizing bombs, grenades, pistols and sub-machineguns. Private meetings of more than 20, except by special permission, also were barred.

Ho Chi Minh, according to the Vietminh People's radio, has appealed to the United Nations to denounce "the American government's plans to help the French maintain domination in Vietnam."

AUSTRALIA

Anti-Communist Drive

THE Australian government's drive against the Communist Party has culminated in a bill introduced by Prime Minister Menzies which would outlaw the party. This would include the party's dissolution, declare it unlawful and appoint a receiver for its assets as well as outlawing "Communist-controlled" organizations and freezing their assets.

Apparently following a pattern which has been applied by more well-known "anti-Communists" than himself, Menzies was not going to be content with eliminating the Communist Party. Simultaneous with his grandiose plan for its dissolutionment, he trained his guns on the Australian trade union movement as well. He branded 53 key members of the union movement Communists. If his bill should be passed these men would be barred from their posts. The men named included leaders in iron, steel, engineering, mining and building as well as leaders of the clerks and waterfront workers unions. Several big unions immediately made it clear they would fight any move to restrict their free choice of officials.

Menzies, in bringing up his bill, said the Communist Party would have no right of appeal, and any of its funds in excess of its liabilities would go into the public purse. Similar treatment would be meted out to "affiliated associations or bodies" if the government was satisfied that they were Communist controlled.

Australia's would-be Communist wrecker admitted that the extension of the banning threat to affiliated organizations was "novel and far-reaching." He claimed, "It is designed to deal with the King's enemies in this country. We are not, except in a technical sense, at peace. We have witnessed the most threatening events in Eastern Europe, in Germany, in east and southeast Asia. If we have learned nothing from all these things, there is no help for us."

* * *

A little more than a month ago Menzies invoked the Crimes Act in industrial disputes which swept the country. This act gave the government the right of immediate arrest, to ban meetings and to impose the death penalty for treason. As of March 27, all strikers in essential Australian industry faced prison sentences if Australian-born and deportation if foreign-born.

In a broadcast calling for the Communist Party ban Menzies referred to Australian Communists as "those who owe allegiance not to Australia but to a foreign power." One day later, a report by a Royal Commission inquiring into communism in the state of Victoria stated that the Communist Party's "policy was in harmony with that of the Cominform, but there was no evidence of direction from outside since 1943 nor of party funds coming from overseas." The commission held 154 sittings between June 6, 1949 and March 6, of this year and its report ran to 70,000 words. The commission reported that the Communist Party aimed at smashing the existing state and ultimately introducing communism.

Ominous Malaya

WHILE strong-armed methods were the order of the day on the domestic front, communism in Asia apparently was becoming a large-sized specter for Australia as well. "Malaya's spreading and festering war has ceased to be regarded as a problem of local administration of the British government," according to the *Melbourne Herald* in an editorial "We Cannot Ignore Malaya."

The same paper argued that the recent statement of Colonial Secretary Griffiths, confirming the ominous evidence of communist pressure on southeast Asia, should dispose of the view of short-sighted commentators that Australia should stand aside from events in Malaya. Meanwhile, in London, British-Australian discussions on possible forms of Australian aid in Malaya were under way. There were some forecasts that Britain would ask for military aid at the forthcoming commonwealth talks in Sydney on economic aid to southeast Asia. Military observers, shying away from the issue of dispatching troops, considered that the provision of transport planes in connection with the Malayan campaign was the most feasible form of direct Australian contribution.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 159)

calamities, flood and famine in the provinces of Honan, north Anhwei and north Kiangsu But great results have already been achieved. Workers, students and government officials have saved from their own daily food to help out the victims in the famine-affected areas. Under the slogan, "We would rather die together than have a single one of our compatriots suffer from starvation," everyone does his best, so conditions have been greatly improved. As nature has been unkind to us, we do not wait for favors from her, but we wrest them from her.

From the above facts, we can clearly tell who really is the one that brings us starvation. Long protracted KMT plunder and Japanese aggression are the chief factors that have impoverished our peasants. American aid to the Kuomintang was used and is still being used to massacre the Chinese people and to frustrate our economic construction program. But fortunately the bulk of the weapons and armaments sent by the American government are now in the hands of the People's Liberation Army and will be used to safeguard world peace.

America is now ruled by a group of brutal warmongers. American peace-loving people have been kept blind from the warmongering activities of their government. We know that the American people do not want war. Only the Wall Street bankers and their hirelings demand it. So it will be quite right to say that all the peace-loving people, whatever their nationality may be, are of the same family, while our common enemies are the instigators of a new war.

C. T. KUO

Fuhtan University
Shanghai
May 3, 1950

OLD READER

To the Editor:

Today I came in from the country and found with great happiness of mind my good friend the Review in the Sinhua Bookshop.

Since the PLA crossed the Yangtze River to fight against the KMT reactionaries, it has been shown that not only have the people of China won a basic victory but international proletarian strengthen has gained much throughout the world.

The People's Revolution of China has traversed a tortuous path. But its experiences have found the only way is—Mr. Mao Tze-tung tells us—through that of the people's democratic dictatorship, based on the workers' and peasants' alliance led by the working class. This dictatorship must unite together with the international revolutionary force.

There is no question that we welcome the opportunity to join hands with the people of America and all other countries, through your Review to carry out the struggle against the warmongers. From today I hope you will tell us more about the history of the Chinese Revolution and reconstruction, especially in connection with China's international relations.

FEI LIANG

Changtzoo, Kiangsu
April 28, 1950

AID UNEMPLOYED

To the Editor:

After the heavy Kuomintang air raid of February 6, which caused damage to the city's power plants, many factories were forced to close. This has caused a great deal of unemployment among the workers and affects the stability of the newly liberated areas.

In response to the resolution of the Shanghai General Labor Union, our district union has made a request that the workers donate one day's pay for the relief of our unemployed comrades. In the works department, the wall newspaper was entirely filled with sympathetic articles, urging further economy or giving the reasons why we should take this decision to aid the unfortunate unemployed.

Everyone was greatly stirred. How could we, members of the same working class, be comforted while our brothers are leading a bitter life. At a serious discussion which was held during our study period, my colleagues, although their own treatment has not been readjusted since the liberation of the city, were all enthusiastically in favor of giving aid to the unemployed. They urged that those who signed their names in support to this relief scheme fulfill their pledges immediately.

I earnestly hope that the funds so collected will be used to the best advantage, enabling our unemployed comrades to tide over the present hard time. Then, most of us believe, a beautiful and brilliant distant scene will soon be coming into view.

WANG SZE-LIANG

Shanghai
April 29, 1950.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

***WE, THE PEOPLE** by Leo Huberman, revised edition with illustrations by Thomas H. Benton, Harper & Brothers, Publishers, New York City, 1947, 351 pages. Reviewed by S. C.*

WITH so much mention in the American press of "Un-American Activities" and the "American Way," it is helpful to read a book on American history that explains clearly and vividly who the American people are and how their country became the leading capitalist power in the world today.

American history books all too often give nothing but dates and dry facts. The richness, drama, color, hardships, rags and riches of the American people are generally ignored behind lists of the 33 American presidents, or names and dates of important battles. Mr. Huberman has shown that American history can be readable and can make sense; for the present position of the United States can only be explained by showing the economic causes which made it possible. The author does this for us and makes history alive. The drama of his interpretation is made even more vivid with excellent illustrations by Thomas Hart Benton.

Few Americans in their history courses in high schools or colleges are given an economic interpretation of their own country's history. It is precisely for this reason that the "American Way" and "Un-American Activities" can be dragged out by every politician who seeks to captivate his audiences and constituents by appealing to their emotions and prejudices. To many Americans something "Un-American" means it is foreign, perhaps even undemocratic as they know it in their representative form of government. Certainly not the "American Way."

What then is the "American Way?" The author tells where Americans came from and why they came. In the 18th century thousands arrived after the most harrowing ship's crossing from Europe and entered a term of bondage whereby they were indentured servants for four or seven years to pay for their passage. Still many more thousands were brought from Africa in the 18th and 19th centuries packed in like animals in the bottom of slave ships. Many from Europe were attracted by the idea of Freedom—a bigger loaf of bread and land of their own. In 1907 alone more than 1,000,000 people entered the United States. In the years 1903 to 1913 "every time the clock struck the hour, day and night (taking the average for the whole 10 years) 100 persons born in some foreign country, not including Canada and Mexico, landed on the shores of the United States."

* * *

POLITICIANS giving Fourth of July speeches often talk about "America's destiny." It was "America's destiny" to win the Revolutionary War which freed her from England; it was "America's destiny" that made "our country the richest, biggest, and by God the most powerful country in the world today." But "destiny" is hardly the explanation for the enormous wealth in the way of natural resources which was awaiting exploitation. "Destiny" does not explain the tremendous economic expansion under the dominance of the corporate form of business enterprise, the growing power of monopoly. It also does not explain the opposition all through the history of America's development from the farmers and industrial workers against the increased power of American Big Business.

For opposition there was to the "American Way." Opposition came from the immigrant workers who were struggling for decent wages in the factories that were expanding by leaps and bounds in the northeastern states, while the farmers in the west were agitating for cheap money so they could pay off their debts and get higher prices for their goods.

"Materials, men, machinery, and money—all together they made the United States the richest country of the world." Mr. Huberman goes on to say, "The capitalists who came into power with the Civil War were the driving force. They combined the natural resources, the labor, and the capital, and made modern America. They developed the country—sometimes by fair means, sometimes by foul means. They became rich. They became powerful. More and more the wealth of the country became concentrated in the hands of these few. Their power grew with their riches. They became the real rulers of the United States."

And the farmers through their People's party in 1892 were stating in their platform:

"The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes for a few . . . Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent is robbery. If any will not work, neither shall he eat . . . "

But the people were hemmed in by the laws and courts that operated in favor of Big Business. Agitation was growing in America for laws to limit the huge trusts that developed at the end of the 19th century. The people themselves forced through an anti-trust law just for this purpose. This very law, though, was used against labor unions instead of against trusts. And the law that was passed to make Negroes equal to all other citizens was interpreted by the Supreme Court to protect corporations! How can this be? Mr. Huberman explains it very clearly and gives facts and statistics to show just how monopolies grew and prospered under the "due process" clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution.

"The end of the First World War found the European nations weak, the United States strong," reports the author. "America had become the greatest financial and political power in the capitalist world. We had changed from a money-owing country to a money-lending country . . . Our surplus capital found investment opportunities in every corner of the globe . . . "

In 1900 the wealth of the United States was estimated at US$86,000,000,000; in 1929 the wealth of the United States was estimated at US$361,000,000,000.

And then came the crash, the terrible depression years of the 1930's when the richest country in the world was "a stricken nation."

* * *

ONE of the most interesting sections of the book covers the "New Deal" period. With Truman's talk of a "Fair Deal" and the Republican leaders agitating against a "welfare state," it is important to remember just what the "New Deal" was. The author explains:

"Mr. Roosevelt's New Deal has been called a revolution. It was—and it wasn't. It was a revolution in ideas, but it was not a revolution in economics.

"It did not change the system of private ownership of the means of production in which the primary object is the making of profit—the United States is still a capitalist country. It did not bring the overthrow of one class by another—the employers are still in their accustomed places, the workers in theirs . . . "

But the new ideas were many: social security, legal rights of trade unions, regulated banking system—to name only a few—but all on a very limited scale, says the author.

It would be well for the McCarthys, the Un-American Activities Committee and Federal Bureau of Investigation, who are now so busy in their witch-hunting of "Reds," to read the message President Roosevelt gave to Congress in April, 1938.

"Among us today a concentration of private power without equal in history is growing . . . Today many Americans ask the uneasy question: Is the vociferation that our liberties are in danger justified by the facts? . . . Their answer is that if there is that danger it comes from that concentrated private economic power which is struggling so hard to master our democratic government . . .

"No people, least of all a people with our traditions of personal liberty, will endure the slow erosion of opportunity for the common man, the oppressive sense of helplessness under the domination of a few, which are overshadowing our whole economic life."

And the author adds to the late President's statement:

"The common man must not forget the New Deal. It was a valuable experience. It gave the workers and farmers a sense of their own power. They learned that in order to be able to get any of the things they wanted they had to organize both politically and economically. And today, when the New Deal is rapidly becoming a memory, they must remember that lesson. They must redouble their economic and political activities. They want jobs and peace. They must take the initiative in getting them. And they will learn through their struggles that jobs and peace are attainable only under a system of production for use, not for profit."

The Review's English Lesson CXXIX

Use of Quotation Marks

QUOTATION marks have many uses in contemporary English, the most common being to indicate direct speech. Words which are actually spoken by a person in a novel, story or news report are enclosed in quotation marks. The words in quotation marks should be an exact reproduction of what the person says.

Indirect quotation, however, does not require quotation marks. Often such an indirect quotation is preceded by "that." For example: He said that it was too warm, and went out. If this were put into the direct form, it would be: He said, "It is too warm," and went out. Notice that in the indirect quotation, the tense of the verbs agrees: He said (past time) that it was (past time). The teller of the story is also telling the reader that it was too warm. But in the direct quotation, the teller of the story lets us know what the person said, and how he said it at the time; naturally, the person would use the present tense to describe how he felt at the time.

We shall quote part of a story which appeared in the *New Yorker* magazine, to illustrate the use of quotation marks in direct quotation. The story begins by describing Josephine's satisfying correspondence with an extremely well educated woman, whom she knows only by correspondence. Josephine lives in the southern part of the United States; the author also describes her self-satisfaction because she feels so kindly toward the Negroes. Then she goes one morning to see some friends of hers, who tell her that they have found out something about the woman with whom she has been corresponding:

Amy stroked Josephine's hand. "Your Mrs. Marshall is a remarkable person," she began slowly. "She's far better educated than any of us ever dreamed of being. Even than you, Jo."

"That's apparent in her letters," Josephine said.

"I mean she's really cultivated," Amy went on. "It's not only that she teaches school; she plays the piano beautifully—classical music."

"She reads French for fun," Kate said, wide-eyed.

"There's just this one thing," said Amy.

"One teentsy-weentsy thing!" Kate chirped.

"Hush up, Kate. This isn't funny," Jane said.

"I think it is," Kate said. "One way you look at it, it's funny."

"Well," Josephine said, trying to sound flippant, "is she living in sin?"

"Oh, no," Amy said. "She's highly respected in her community. Very charitable, and a power for good, and . . . " Her voice trailed away. She looked hopefully at Jane. Jane shook her head. "Well," Amy said flatly, "she's colored."

"What?" Josephine gasped. Then she saw the girls watching her, wanting to see how she would act.

One thing to notice in direct quotation is that the words used are simple, direct, and give the impression of actual speech. Many common contractions are used, as for example "she's" for "she is," "that's" for "that is," "there's" for "there is;" all these, being easier and quicker to say than the two separate words of which they are made up, have become accepted in ordinary speech. However, in more formal writing, such contractions are not used.

Punctuation is important in English, and it appears difficult when complicated with quotation marks. The words to be quoted begin with a pair of quotation marks, which in writing are made like commas turned upside down—they look like "66." The first word is capitalized, and when the quotation ends with the end of a sentence, a comma is used instead of a period, a pair of upright commas—"99"—are written after the comma, and then some such expression as "he said," ending with a period. For example: "There's just this one thing," said Amy.

The narrator's remark may, however, break into the middle of a sentence; in this case, commas are used to set it off, as in: "Well," Josephine said, trying to sound flippant, "is she living in sin?" The quoted part is considered as one sentence, so no period is used after the introductory "well."

Also to be noticed is the way that the necessary "he (she) said" phrases are varied, both as to their place in the sentence, and their wording. They come usually in the middle of the quoted sentence (or group of sentences), or at the end of each person's remarks. Also, it is not always necessary to use the verb "say." In the above example, we have "she began," "Amy went on," "Kate chirped," and "Josephine gasped." Such verbs have the useful functions of varying the monotonous repetition of "said—said—said," and of indicating the manner in which the person speaks.

It is important to notice that, when several persons are speaking, a new paragraph, no matter how short, is customarily begun for each new speaker.

Now for some words that might be puzzling:

Josephine—Jo: "Jo" is the nickname, or shorter, more familiar name, used among close friends.

Wide-eyed: In a wondering, amazed manner.

Teentsy-weentsy: Baby-talk, meaning "very small."

Hush up: A southern phrase meaning "be quiet."

Flippant: Treating a serious matter lightly; turning a serious thing into a joke.

Living in sin: A flippant expression meaning "living with another without having gone through the marriage ceremony."

Colored: A colored person, as colloquially used in the US, refers to a Negro.

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上海香港路一一七號美豐登